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Voters set for the polls as future of policing in county set for change

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR POLICE COMMISSIONER JOB

By Charles Thomson

ON NOVEMBER 15, Essex residents will elect a public official with an £85,000 salary and the power to fire the Chief Constable.

The county's new Police and Crime Commissioner will be put in charge of the Essex Police budget – almost £300million – and will dictate local policing priorities.

The Commissioner will replace the Essex Police Authority, a committee which met regularly at Essex County Council.

The controversial move, part of the Conservative Party's 2010 manifesto, will be introduced in 41 UK police force area.

Critics have accused the decision of politicising the work of the police.

In Essex, six candidates will fight for the role: one Labour, one Conservative, one UKIP, one English Democrat and two independents.

Neither the Liberal Democrats nor the Green Party has fielded a candidate.

The Liberal Democrat Party has stated that it does not support the decision to introduce the role, but has fielded some candidates around the country.

South East Green Party spokesman Michael Hoy wrote on his blog that his party decided not to field candidates because it disagreed with the post.

He wrote: "We strongly believe that the role would be best filled by an independent candidate with relevant experience, rather than the police being closely associated with a political party."

Former Commander of the Crime Operations Division David Bright MBE, who retired in 1999 as the most decorated officer in the history of Essex Police, said having a single conduit between the public and the Chief Constable would be a welcome change to the 'bureaucratic and time-consuming' committee system.

Mr Bright, 70, said: "Unfortunately, in my opinion, the government has not sold it very well. But there is no point in pushing against it."

"I've read that some people are boycotting it. That's a nonsense. It's happening, so if you don't go and vote, you might end up with someone you don't want."

Asked what qualities the commissioner should have, he said: "They should have good negotiating skills. They should be used to dealing with people in high office as well as the common man."

"They should have good background in finance as they will be responsible for a very, very large budget. And they should have their feet on the



WHO WILL BE HIS BOSS?:
 Essex Chief Constable
 Jim Barker-McCardle.
 Picture by Martin Dalton

ground and some common sense."

This week readers can judge the six candidates for those qualities themselves, as the Yellow Advertiser has conducted exclusive interviews with them all.

Each of the candidates answered 10 questions, of which five have been published in this week's

edition. To read the unedited interviews, visit our website.

At the election you will be able to choose your first and second preference.

Send us your thoughts on the role and the candidates to letters@yellowad.co.uk

■ Turn to pages 3, 4 and 5 for more.

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INSIDE this week



All aboard the county's most popular restaurant – the Marco Polo

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Yellow Advertiser

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Editor: Greg Fidgeon
Publishing director: Scott Wood
Distribution manager: Rob Rolfe
Switchboard: 01268 503400
Advertising: 01268 503450
Fax: 01268 503418/9 and 503455
Editorial: 01268 503485
E-mail: southend@yellowad.co.uk
Fax: 01268 503480
Distribution: 01268 503380
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Competition

WIN! Step back in time with Magic of Motown

WE have teamed up with the promoters of the UK's busiest touring production, featuring the music of Motown Records, to give away 10 pairs of tickets to see the show.

The hit show from States, The Magic of Motown, is coming to Indigo2 at the O2 Greenwich on Thursday, November 22, during a tour of the UK's most prestigious venues.

The non-stop spectacular features 36 massive chart-toppers from The Supremes, Temptations, Four Tops, Jackson 5, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Martha Reeves, Lionel Richie and many more.

An all-star cast, a talented live band that faithfully reproduces Motown's original Detroit sound, 16 sparkling costume changes and tightly choreographed dance routines make this a must-see show for all Motown fans.

"This year is a very special one as far as Motown is concerned," says show producer Michael Taylor. "It marks 50 years of number one hits from the world's favourite record label."

To mark the occasion, The Magic of Motown is preparing to sign, seal and deliver its biggest production ever in its nine-year history.

Tickets for the show, which starts at

8pm, cost from £27.50 to £30, and are available from the Box Office by calling 08448 440 002 or by visiting www.theindigo2.com or www.easytheatres.com

To win one of 10 pairs of tickets to the show just answer the following question.

Q: How many massive chart-toppers does The Magic of Motown show feature?

A: 16
B: 26
C: 36

To enter the competition telephone your answer - A, B or C - to 0901 307 1664 along with your name, address, telephone number and e-mail.

Alternatively text YAMAGIC (space) followed by A, B or C, and your name, full address and e-mail to 63333.

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Lines close on Thursday, November 8, 2012. Entries received after the closing date will not be counted but may still be charged.

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Tickets will go to the first entries drawn after the closing date. There is no cash alternative. Editor's decision is final.



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Election special: Police and Crime Commissioners

Conservative: Nicholas Alston, 60, Chelmsford

Relevant skills/qualifications/education?

Chelmsford Grammar School; Cambridge University (MA); Security Professional; Appointed CBE in 1997 for services to Defence.

How long have you lived in Essex?
60 years with just short breaks.

What town do you live in now?
Chelmsford.

What jobs have you held over the last 20 years?

Formerly: Senior Government security and defence official then Managing Director responsible for global security in an international company.

Currently: Non-Executive Director Broomfield Hospital, Chelmsford; Advisory Board member Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science at UCL.

Age?
60.

Marital status?
Married.

Party or vote preference?
Conservative.

Hobbies?

Sailing, singing, volunteering at Chelmsford Cathedral and walking

How will you measure your success if you are elected to the role?

By the reduction in crime in Essex. By public satisfaction with policing in Essex.

Have you ever been a victim of crime and how did it impact on you?

We have been burgled at night while we were in the house – we felt violated and shocked. We also woke while masked intruders were robbing our bedroom while staying with friends in Rome. I chased them but they got away. This was deeply unsettling. Even minor crime can be traumatising – like the fury I felt the first time my credit card was cloned.

When did you last commit a crime and why?

I was fined for speeding at 35 in a 30 limit in



1979. I was late for work, driving on a quiet rural road on the edge of town.

You have been given £1m. Do you spend it all on crime prevention or crime solving? You cannot split it. Explain your reasons.

Prevention. Solving crime is much more difficult than the public imagine, and even the best performance rates internationally are poor. Once crime has happened there has been a victim. Better to prevent crime and have fewer victims – and less crime to investigate.

Punishment or rehabilitation? What would be your priority if you were a judge?

Both in different measure depending on the offence and the offender. An element of punishment is essential, but to reduce crime we have to work on stopping reoffending.

Independent: Linda Belgrove, 58, Alresford

All relevant skills/qualifications/education?

I have developed skills and knowledge in a diverse range of business environments including being self-employed. For the last four years I have served as an Independent Member of Essex Police Authority. I was Vice Chair of Essex Police Authority until June of this year.

How long have you lived in Essex?
I was born in Essex and have lived in the county for a total of 40 years.

What town do you live in now?
I live in Alresford near Colchester.

What jobs have you held over the last 20 years?

Following employment with Law firms I have been self-employed offering business support services and for the last four years I have served the people of Essex as an Independent Member of Essex Police Authority.

Age?
58.

Marital status?
Married.

Party or vote preference?
I am not affiliated to nor have I ever supported any particular political party.

Hobbies?

I enjoy country walks and sailing.

How will you measure your success if you are elected to the role?

To continue to keep crime & ASB down. To have addressed business crime. We have to tackle drunken and violent behaviour anywhere in Essex.

As PCC I will support the Chief Constable and the force to send out a clear message this behaviour is unacceptable and will have consequences. Success will be an obvious reduction and recognition of this by the people of Essex.

Have you ever been a victim of crime and how did it impact on you?

Crime impacts on us all but I have not experienced anything of a serious nature, criminal damage to a car when parked on a high street. I have encountered the victims of serious



crimes – crime can have a devastating impact on the victims.

As Commissioner I would want to demonstrate and promote support for victims and expect appropriate sentences for offenders.

When did you last commit a crime and why?

In common with the majority of people in Essex I am law abiding and have never knowingly committed a crime.

You have been given £1m. Do you spend it all on crime prevention or crime solving? You cannot split it. Explain your reasons.

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You can read all 10 questions and answers from the six candidates at www.yellowad.co.uk

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Election special: Police and Crime Commissioners

Labour: Val Morris-Cook, 54, Thurrock

All relevant skill /qualifications/education?

I am educated to A-level standard and have a BTEC in business admin.

How long have you lived in Essex? 28 years.

What town do you live in now? Thurrock.

What jobs have you held over the last 20 years?

I was a partner in an Office Cleaning Service. I worked for Tony Le Voi for five years within a Customer Facing role.

I worked for two years for Different Aspect, a software design in a sales manager role.

I have worked for the last six years for Wincanton Logistics and am now the general manager working on the Procter and Gamble contract.

I am also the Deputy leader of Thurrock Council with responsibility for Housing.

How will you measure your success if you are elected to the role?

A reduction in crime fear of crime and reoffending. Smarter working, better communication and a stronger working relationship between the police and the community.

Have you ever been a victim of crime and how did it impact on you?

Yes, as a family we were robbed on holiday of all of our travel documents, cash, cards, luggage and clothes. I felt violated and resentful that someone had stolen the children's (they were young) holiday. The time it took to process the crime with the local Spanish police force and when home with the insurance company was months, the insurance company made me feel as if we were the criminals.

When did you last commit a crime and why?



I think like most people I have done something wrong recently and whatever it is I won't be proud of it. If I am truthful there are times when driving on the motorways you do see the speed creep above what it should be. I am acutely aware of road safety and the need to reduce speed and try to ensure that I drive within the speed limit.

You have been given £1m. Do you spend it all on crime prevention or crime solving? You cannot split it. Explain your reasons.

The PR thing to do would be spend it on crime solving as you get quick results you can cheer about. But the best thing is for crime not to happen in the first place.

It saves police time and money too. So even though it will be harder to show the results the consequences for the community and the police of preventing crime last longer and are better value for money. So prevention is the reply.

Punishment or rehabilitation? What would be your priority if you were a judge?

Punishment, my priority would be to stop reoffending. To ensure the victim of the crime felt justice had been done.

English Democrats: Robin Tilbrook, 54, near Ongar

DEGREE in politics and economics, post graduate teaching qualification, solicitor.

Lived in Essex for 25 years and currently live in Ongar. I am married, work as a solicitor and my hobbies are walking, reading and politics.

How will you measure your success if you are elected to the role?

I aim to apply good old fashioned English common sense to drastically reduce crime in Essex and not to be

fettered in doing so by political correctness.

Have you ever been a victim of crime and how did it impact on you?

Yes, burglary.

When did you last commit a crime and why?

A fixed penalty - for not wearing my seat belt! Not a good use of police time.

You have been given £1m. Do you spend it all on crime prevention or crime solving? You cannot split it. Explain your reasons.

Crime prevention. The

All relevant skills/qualifications/education?

I have a University degree in Economics and Statistics and I am a Chartered Accountant with a career in commerce.

How long have you lived in Essex?

I was married in the county and my children were born and raised here so I have been here for over 40 years.

What jobs have you held over the last 20 years?

My roles have usually been



called Finance Director and included chief financial officer, IT and litigation management, mainly in regulated firms. In my career I have worked in two listed companies and a number of family and management owned businesses. I currently work with an investor team who finance new business start-ups and help existing ones to grow in the City.

How will you measure your success if you are elected to the role?

I would work to re-unite the police and the public so they better trust each other and therefore give better support to crime prevention and detection. Achieving this would be the main measure of success I would apply.

The first holders of this new office have a special responsibility to show how

Home Office Research shows that there are 2,400 "families with complex needs" in Essex which on average have £138,000 per year spent on "supporting" them (some costs over £300,000 per year!).

These families are responsible for over 80 per cent of anti-social behaviour and over 70 per cent of all burglaries.

I would spend the £1 million on informing these "families" that they must now either obey the law, be



sent to prison or move out of Essex and then on enforcing that instruction.

Punishment or rehabilitation? What would be your priority if you were a judge?

Punishment and deterrence.

UKIP: Andrew Smith, 63, Epping

it can bring public accountability to the police and ensure the police priorities reflect public and business demands.

Have you ever been a victim of crime and how did it impact on you?

Yes. I found it shocking and felt personally anxious and damaged by it. Although it was property damage it was an invasion of my property and I felt less safe as a result.

When did you last commit a crime and why?

Apart from minor motoring offences I have never committed a crime. PCC candidates cannot have a record if they are to be qualified to stand.

You have been given £1m. Do you spend it all on crime prevention or crime solving? You cannot split

it. Explain your reasons.

The first responsibility of the PCC is to reduce crime but it is difficult to answer this question when over 300 constables are being sacked in Essex following central government budget cuts.

After the public and police have been fully re-engaged to help each other, crime prevention would improve at little or no cost so resources might then be redirected towards solving those that remain.

Punishment or rehabilitation? What would be your priority if you were a judge?

There can never be a choice between punishment and rehabilitation. Serious crime demands punishment but rehabilitation on release must be attempted.

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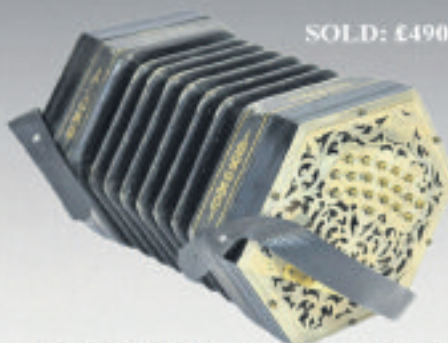
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Election special: Police and Crime Commissioners

Independent: Mick Thwaites, 56, Southend

All relevant skills/qualifications/education?

I joined the City of London Police in 1975 and have over 34 years of experience in managing risk in the most complex and challenging, operational and project type environments.

I graduated with a LL.B (hons) from Anglia Polytechnic and have applied my legal knowledge throughout my career having served in three forces, City of London, Metropolitan and Essex Constabularies.

I joined Essex Police in March 1979 and spent the early part of my career in the Southend and Thurrock areas.

I also worked across Essex as head of Operations Division and as Head of Traffic.

I have extensive operational and practical knowledge and throughout my career I was required to make high risk decisions in areas that include specialist firearms operations as both Gold and Silver Commander dealing with armed robbery and kidnap, high risk football matches or in public order situations as a trained ground commander.

My previous roles have required me to communicate and work with many criminal justice agencies, local authorities and businesses across Essex and nationally.

My last role before retiring from the police in March 2009 at the rank of Chief Superintendent was the senior responsible owner and lead for Essex Police with regard to



2012 Olympics.

How long have you lived in Essex? 40 years.

What jobs have you held over the last 20 years? Thirty-four years policing, currently consultancy.

How will you measure your success if you are elected to the role?

Essex will be safer and the people of Essex will feel safer. They will know where accountability sits and they will feel they have a very strong voice at the centre of policing.

There will be less crime less anti-social behaviour and greater satisfaction by the people of Essex as to how policing is being delivered.

Have you ever been a victim

of crime and how did it impact on you?

No – but have been to many victims of crime over the years and very much know that crime does impact in many ways.

We need to put victims at the very heart of the criminal justice system.

When did you last commit a crime and why?

Got caught by a safety camera and went on a driver improvement scheme, which – even with my knowledge – it was good to see that educating the public in that way is sometimes better than straight punishment.

You have been given £1m. Do you spend it all on crime prevention or crime solving? You cannot split it. Explain your reasons.

Very simple answer; prevention because it is better not to have victims of crime and have the lives of our community destroyed by others.

Punishment or rehabilitation? What would be your priority if you were a judge?

Bit of both – you can't have one without the other. Victims need to see that there is strong recognition that they have suffered through the acts of others and criminals always have a choice victims don't.

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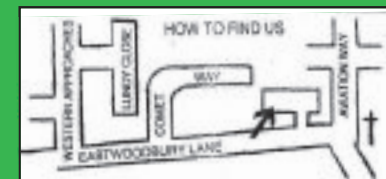
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Be a feeding buddy

SOUTHEND Hospital is looking for new recruits for its 'red army' of voluntary mealtime assistants, who can make a great difference to patients.

Known as Feeding Buddies, the red-tabarded helpers assist and encourage some of the elderly and vulnerable patients to eat up at mealtimes.

"These ladies have been lovely to me," said patient Vera Bond, who has now returned home. "They are so kind and always have the time for a conversation. They take time with the menu so I can sort out what I want to eat – the fish is very nice."

"I've been a bit naughty because they always give me ice-cream for pudding; sometimes I have more than one!"

Not only are Feeding Buddies invaluable pairs of extra hands on the busy ward, they also have the time to sit and chat with patients, helping to make mealtimes more relaxed and social.

And it was after chatting to Vera during the course of lunch one day that Buddy Pauline Woolley discovered the tiny 81-year-old from Rayleigh had a passion for ice-cream.

Vera's daughter Sue Merchant, 57, also from Rayleigh, has been a regular on the ward since Vera was admitted earlier this month.



HELPING HANDS: Vera Bond (centre) with Feeding Buddy Pauline and Sue Merchant.

"I help give mum her lunch, but it's nice to know she's being looked after when I'm not here," said Sue, who was dividing her time between the hospital and caring for dad Jim, 84, at home.

"I think everyone who has someone they love in hospital worries about whether they are getting enough to eat, so having the Feeding Buddy scheme is very reassuring. I've watched them with

other patients on the ward I've been very impressed."

Southend Hospital currently has around 80 Feeding Buddies, but needs many more to provide two helpers per mealtime on all appropriate wards.

"Good nutrition is essential to helping patients get better and what the Buddies provide is invaluable – they really do make a massive difference on the ward," says clinical development nurse Claire Buckell.

"Buddies come from all walks of life – from students to mums to retired people, to people who have good care from the hospital and want to give something back."

Full training and support is given, and the time commitment can be as little as an hour a week. Pauline, 72, from Rochford, became a Buddy earlier this year, and loves the role, helping out on the hospital's Stambridge and Estuary wards twice a week. "It's social, you are helping and it keeps me occupied; I love it," she said.

Those looking to get involved can call 01702 435555 ext 6135, e-mail feedingbuddies@southend.nhs.uk or visit www.southend.nhs.uk and click on the 'support us' tab.

► speedread

Street robbery

A MAN was threatened with a knife and had his wallet stolen in a street robbery on Thursday morning.

He was in Finchley Road, Westcliff, when two men approached him, made the threat and stole the wallet and a sports bag.

The suspects are described as both black, one aged 15-20, about 5ft 9ins tall wearing a black tracksuit and bright red trainers, he held the knife. The other was early teens around 5ft 7ins tall, wearing all black with a distinctive large diamond earring.

Those with information should call Southend police on 101 or via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Charity afternoon

SOUTHEND Oncology Supporters are holding a charity afternoon tea at 2.30pm on Saturday, November 17, at the Westcliff Hotel, in Westcliff Parade.

All proceeds from the meal will help to buy medical equipment and extra comforts for Southend Hospital's cancer ward patients.

Tickets for the event are £12 each.

These can be obtained by calling 01702 711189, 01702 478564 or by e-mailing south.onc.supps@btinternet.com

Trouble at pub

A SCUFFLE in a Shoebury pub left a man with broken ribs.

It took place in Parsons Barn, in Froberish Way, shortly after 11.30pm on Saturday, October 20. A 26-year-old man was pushed onto a table, causing him to sustain serious abdominal injuries.

DC Kiri Karlo, said: "He had been sitting a table with a female friend when this other man approached him and pushed him over while he had been sitting at the table."

Anyone with information should call detectives at Southend police on 101.

New primary school is officially opened

A £6.9million primary school and nursery was officially opened in Shoeburyness on Friday.

Southend mayor Sally Carr was among the dignitaries attending the Hinguar school opening in New Garrison Road and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The new building – into which pupils moved in September – has a nursery, as well as areas, which can be zoned-off securely after school to allow them to be used by the local community.

Among the other features are flexible teaching spaces for the children, a swimming pool, and external play areas including a junior sports pitch.

It has also been built with solar panels on the roof to help provide the school with electricity.

Headteacher Viv Stevens said there was a 'palpable buzz' when the children went into the school for the first time.

"The pupils have all settled quickly into their new school and

often will describe that what they like about their new school is the space and the light and airy feel of their classrooms," she said.

"The children have been focused this term on learning about their new school, developing outdoor learning and finding out about their new local community."

"Many projects have got under way – such as burying a time capsule in the school grounds and working with the Essex Wildlife Trust to develop nature

areas here. All of our children are also spending weekly sessions helping to set up our school allotment in time for the growing season.

"It has been a busy start to the new academic year at Hinguar Primary School and Nursery and there is still much to do."

"However, each day brings happiness as children enjoy and engage within a learning environment that works and is fit for the purpose of education and community."

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LUNCH WITH FRIENDS: Kate Hands, Shirley Greenslade, Margaret Strickfuss, Sue Wiltshire, Maria King, Pamela Buck, Mary Barrow, Irene Havell, Sylvia Day and Sue Bennett travelled from Rainham, Upminster, Brentwood and Rayleigh for the meal.

All ship shape at Essex's most popular restaurant

A CRUISE liner based at Tilbury has become the most popular restaurant in Essex – catering for 2,000 diners in just three days.

The Marco Polo, which sails from the Essex to The Amazon, The West Indies and Scandinavia, served up more than 300 covers in each of six sittings between Wednesday and Friday last week.

Diners paid £45-a-head for a four course meal before retiring to the main bar for entertainment.

Kate Hands, from Benfleet, was among the guests, with 11 friends on Friday.

She said: "We've a wonderful lunch. It's something a bit different and a lot of fun."

Shirley Greenslade, from Rainham, said: "The food is good and we're looking forward to some after lunch entertainment."

Marco Polo managers said diners were a combination of former passengers and those wanting to savour the experience for the first time.

The next cruises are in December, to the Christmas Markets of Amsterdam and Antwerp, followed by two weeks in the Canaries and then The Land of Northern Lights – along the Norwegian coastline. The Marco Polo leaves for the Amazon on January 3, 2012.

More lunch and dinner dates have just been added for December 13 14, 15 and 19.

For more information visit www.cruiseandmaritime.com or call 0844 4146177.

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WHAT A PAIN IN THE BUTT!

JON HANDLEY-COLLINS,
DOCTOR OF CHIROPRACTIC
DISCUSSES:

Sciatica

Sciatica "Si-at-ika" is a group of symptoms involving pain in the buttock and back of the leg, only usually on one side of the body. In addition to pain there may be any combination of pins & needles, numbness, tingling and muscle weakness in the affected leg or foot.

The true meaning of Sciatica is often misunderstood. The term is merely a group of symptoms and not a diagnosis. This means that if you have been told you have Sciatica, you still have not been given a diagnosis, as the diagnosis is being told what is causing your Sciatica symptoms. Having a correct diagnosis is important because the treatment options for the different causes are very different.

The main causes of Sciatica are:

■ **Spinal disc herniation:** Some people call this a "slipped disc" but what actually happens is the fluid like contents of your spinal disc causes the outer layers of the disc to bulge out. If this bulge is on to a spinal nerve in your lower back, it can cause Sciatica.

■ **Spinal Stenosis:** This is where the hole for your spinal nerve to exit from the spinal canal closes up and puts pressure on the affected nerve, causing Sciatica.

■ **Piriformis Syndrome:** The piriformis is a muscle in your buttock. The Sciatic nerve passes very closely to this muscle and in rare cases passes through the muscle. When this muscle gets tight it can irritate the Sciatic nerve, which can cause Sciatica.

As a Chiropractor, many people come to me with sciatica. Narrowing the symptoms down to a diagnosis involves a thorough case history, an orthopaedic examination to find out where the symptoms are coming from, a neurological examination to find out if and how the nerves are affected and a Chiropractic examination to find out how your spine is functioning.

A report of findings is then prepared to tell you what has been found and what needs to be done to sort it out, be that Chiropractic treatment or referral to your GP for a specialist investigation.

At the Optimum Spine Centre, (based at 1212 London Road, Leigh on Sea) for a short time, we are conducting these initial consultations and reports of findings for £10. Give the Centre a call today on 01702 710084.

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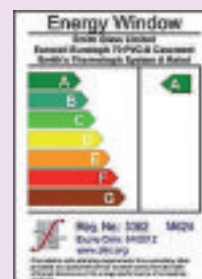
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Zombie walk

THERE will be some spooky goings on along Southend Pier at the weekend with the very first Zombie Walk.

The walk, which starts at the Cultural Centre at the end of the Pier, is being held on Saturday, at 3pm and promises to be fun for all the family, with money going to Southend Hospital's Bosom Pals Appeal on the Road for digital breast cancer screening equipment.

There is no charge to join the walk for participants and travel on the shiver-making 'Pier ghost train' is free.

Walkers will stagger and lope – zombie-style – down along the Pier, and up Pier Hill to the Park Inn Palace Hotel.

The hotel is holding a special screening of the hilariously scary – but child friendly – classic horror/comedy 'Carry on Screaming', which starts at 5pm. The bar will be open and hot food will be available.

The Cultural Centre will be open from mid-day for participants to assemble and to get ready. There will not be any private changing or make up rooms available and zombies will be expected to apply their own make-up.

To round off the day there will be a grand fireworks display on the seafront that evening.



The event is being organised by the video production company The White Bus.

"It should be a really good afternoon and evening out and what better cause to support than breast cancer services at Southend Hospital?" said hospital community fundraiser Kayley Harvey (pictured above).

All photographs will be posted at www.facebook.com/pages/Southend-Hospital-Charitable-Foundation

Airport expansion work to begin

WORK on the £10million extension to the new terminal at Southend Airport will get underway soon with officials claiming it will create more than 300 additional jobs.

Kier will carry out the work across three phases with a new arrivals facility scheduled to arrive by the end of May and all works completed by next Christmas.

The terminal building will become 90 metres longer. The

number of check-in desks and baggage drop off points will increase, as will the amount of space for passengers in security.

The 300 new jobs will arise from the increase in Southend-based aircraft over time, which will result in a variety of additional operational and service roles such as passenger service, security, retail, catering, baggage handling, engineering and maintenance, plus airline crew. London Southend Airport

Managing Director Alastair Welch said: "Our aim is to ensure that we deliver a very special level of customer service in Southend and this extension will allow us to ensure we can continue to deliver those high standards as the airport grows."

"This is also further evidence of the role the redeveloped airport is playing in supporting the regeneration of the wider Essex economy."

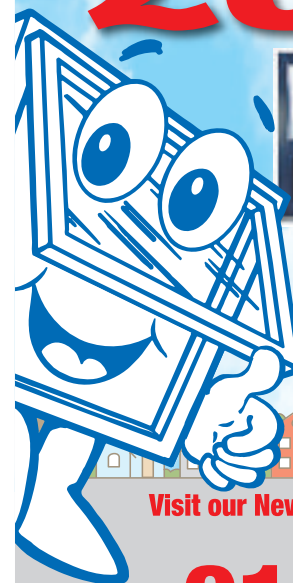
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Couple sought over attack in nightspot

DETECTIVES are hoping the release of CCTV images of a couple suspected of assaulting a woman in a Southend nightclub will lead to their swift arrest.

The attack took place inside Churchills, in Tylers Avenue, shortly after 12:30am on Saturday, October 6.

A woman had been groped by a man on the dancefloor and then punched in the face by a woman, who is believed to have been in the company of the man. The 27-year-old victim fell to the floor and was then kicked and stamped on by the woman.

Investigating Officer, DC Kiri Karlo, said: "We've managed to obtain the CCTV from the club and it clearly shows our two suspects."

"They need identifying and we would urge people to look at them closely and call us with their names. This poor woman took a severe beating



DO YOU KNOW THEM?: Police believe these two people may be responsible for an assault.

and we would like to arrest her attackers."

The female assailant is described as white, in her early-mid 20s, approximately 5ft 6ins tall, was wearing a leopard-print dress and a dark fluffy coat.

The male is described as white, aged in his 20s, is approximately 5ft 10ins tall, has shaved ginger hair and

was wearing a grey suit.

The victim was treated at Southend Hospital for knee ligament and tendon damage before being discharged.

Anyone with information in connection with this assault or who can identify the two people pictured in the CCTV is urged to contact detectives at Southend police station on 101.

Man wanted over thefts from shop

DO YOU know this man? He is wanted in connection with multiple thefts in Westcliff.

He entered the BP Service Station in London Road, Westcliff, several times between Friday, October 12, and Friday, October 19, taking items from the display without making any attempt to pay.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact PC Joanne Andrews at the Operation Julep team at Leigh Police Station on 101, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.



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Meeting: HARP Residents Ken Grounsell and Vince Williams with Nick Hurd MP.
Pictures by Stephen Colyer

Minister visits for launch

GOVERNMENT Minister Nick Hurd visited Southend last week for the re-branding launch of the Southend Community Fund.

The fund was founded by former council leader and mayor Howard Briggs, along with Peter Croysdill and Sir Teddy Taylor and has assisted more than 60 local charities so far and has built up its fund to £500,000.

Mr Briggs said: "We are very grateful and

honoured that Nick Hurd should take time out of his schedule to travel to us here to spend an evening meeting members of the local community and to also visit the Homeless Action Resource Project Night Shelter in York Road."

Mr Hurd – the Minister for Civil Society – attended the event, which was hosted by long-term supporter of the fund Olympus KeyMed, alongside local MP James Duddridge.

Reading challenge Christmas events

A SIX Book Challenge aimed at getting people back into reading will be launched in November.

It is being run by Southend Libraries and Southend Adult Community College and will launch at SACC's base in Ambleside Drive on Tuesday, November 13.

This event is for college staff, volunteers and learners and will form part of a week-long library information display at SACC.

Run by The Reading Agency, the idea is to help people get back into reading - in many cases for the first time.

Six Book Challenge www.sixbookchallenge.org.uk was launched nationally in 2008.

A CHRISTMAS Spectacular is taking place next month to help get Southend in the festive spirit.

The event on Saturday, November 17, will get underway at 8.30am with a programme of activities before the switching on of the Christmas lights at 5pm. Santa and his real live reindeer will be joined by fairytale characters including Cinderella as they travel down the High Street, starting at Victoria Circus at 1pm and finishing at the Royals Shopping Centre.

The Spectacular stage in Victoria Circus will have a range of acts from 12pm to 3pm, BBC Essex will be at the top of Pier Hill throughout the day and Martin & Su on the HeartFM stage from 4pm.

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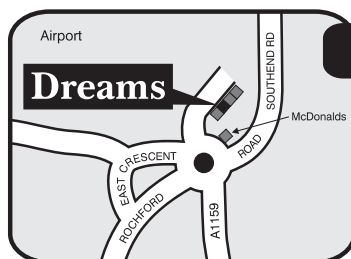


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A FASHION show at Rendezvous Casino has raised more than £1,100 for Southend Mind.

The mental health charity provides support- ed accommodation, counselling and advisory services to young people and adults in Castle Point, Rochford, Southend and the surrounding areas.

The success of the day was thanks to the continued support of the Rendezvous Casino, which hosted and sponsored the event, and Occasion Boutique of Westcliff, which presented the fashion show featuring the latest trends for the autumn and winter seasons.

Rendezvous marketing manager, Junior Garrod said: "This is the first time The Rendezvous Casino has been involved in the Fashion Show and it further emphasises our continued partnership with Southend Mind.

"The vital work and support that Southend Mind provides within our community cannot be underestimated and the Rendezvous Casino will be maintaining its association both financially and through direct involvement."

For more information about the charity, call 01702 601123 or email fundraising@southendmind.org.uk

EVENT: Occasion Boutique models with marketing manager Junior Garrod (centre) and restaurant manager Javier Tejero.

Fashion show raises money

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Sport winners are crowned at awards event

WINNERS were crowned at this year's Southend Sports Awards last Thursday night in a ceremony at Southend Leisure and Tennis Centre.

Swimmer Jo Jo Cranfield picked up two awards on the night including the Sports Personality of the Year gong, as well as Paralympic Hopeful.

Councillor Derek Jarvis said: "This summer we've had magnificent national and international demonstrations of the power of sport, so now it is time to throw the spotlight on individuals and sports clubs locally who make such a positive contribution to sport in our community."

Robert Camp took the Young Sports Personality award, while athlete George Elliot was the Olympic Hopeful.

Karen Drew from Southend Spartans rugby league club was presented with the Services To Sport award, while the club itself was runner up in the Community Club of the Year category, missing out to winners Southend Judo Club.

Southend Youth Mayor Zeeshan Mitha picked up the Young Community Volunteer gong, while karate sensei Ozel Osman was crowned Coach of the Year.

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Kidney's birthday marked

JUST days after celebrating her 84th birthday, Violet Rosewell was blowing out candles again. Her daughter Kaye Gordon surprised her with a healthily pink kidney-shaped cake to mark the 30th anniversary of her kidney transplant.

They took the cake along to Southend University Hospital's renal unit to share with staff members, who have looked after Violet since she was given the life-saving kidney at the Royal London Hospital back in 1982.

For three years before the suitable organ became available, Violet was kept alive by dialysis after her kidneys failed when she was in her 50s. The machine was set up in her adapted home and her late husband Kenneth was allowed home early from work three times a week to put her on it and flush out the body's toxins.

Kaye recalls the ambulance dash to London while the kidney from an unknown donor was flown down to the capital. She said: "Mum had been extremely ill with kidney failure but, since the transplant, she has not looked back."

Violet, of Stadium Road, Southend, was able to enjoy holidays abroad with Kenneth before he sadly died 12 years ago and has lived to fulfil her wish of seeing her two grandchildren, now 24 and 26, grow up and forge successful careers.

She still attends Southend University Hospital's renal unit regularly for checks and credits their care for keeping her so well.

Now the whole family is urging others to go on the organ donor register.

Kaye said: "To give someone 30 years of life is brilliant. Mum's story really gives hope to other people facing a transplant."



CELEBRATION: Violet Rosewell with consultant nephrologist Dr Fernando Moro-Azuola, daughter Kaye and renal unit manager Sister Maggie Farrell.

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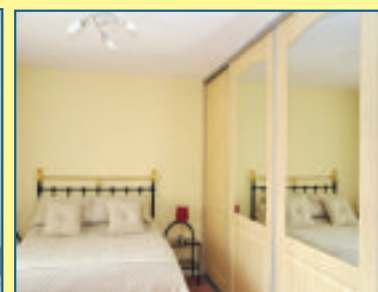
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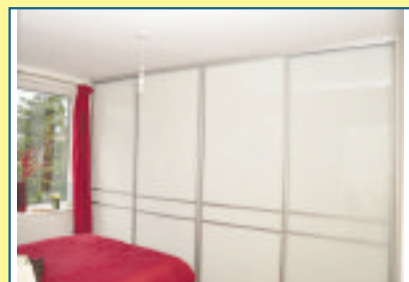


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Festive music

CHRISTMAS is less than two months away and preparations for a series of musical events over the festive period are already underway.

Schools are invited to bring their choirs or bands to entertain residents, visitors, family and friends in the foyer bar at the Cliffs Pavilion throughout December.

The performances will take place at lunch times on Mondays, December 10 and 17, and Fridays, December 14 and 21.

Any schools who wish to take part should e-mail 12daysofchristmas@southend.gov.uk as soon as possible.

Another key date in the '12 Days of Christmas' series is a community carol concert at Southend Bandstand in Priory Park, Victoria Avenue, on Sunday, December 23.

For this event the Southend Band, clad in

Edwardian era clothes and accompanied by local singers, will perform an hour-long Carol Singalong from 2pm until 3pm.

Southend Council's executive councillor for culture and tourism, Derek Jarvis, said: "This series at the Cliffs Pavilion is a tremendous way to rev up for Christmas with melodious music from our children and young people. We hope as many schools as possible will leap at this chance to demonstrate their talents, and that they are warmly supported by a welcoming throng of supporters!"

"Southend Band's Community Carol Singalong at the Bandstand gives everyone the chance to join in and sing their hearts out as Christmas excitement reaches fever pitch. Just wrap up warmly and come along to share in the festivities!"

Lib Dem group honours president



SOUTHEND'S Liberal Democrats welcomed Bedford Mayor Dave Hodgson to their annual president supper last week to honour current president Nora Goodman.

Mr Hodgson is one of only a few elected mayors in the country, and one of only two LibDems.

He spoke about the role of elected mayor and explained the day-to-day job that he does.

The supper was held at Pavarotti's in Hamlet Court Road, Westcliff, and attracted a number of local LibDem members.

MEAL: Presidet Nora Goodman with Mayor Dave Hodges.



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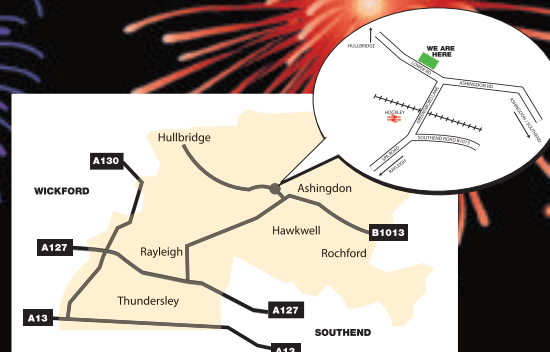
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Police hunt for armed robbers

AN EFIT of a man responsible for an armed robbery on a jewellers has been released by investigating officers.

Two balaclava-clad men walked into Andrews Jewellers, in West Road, Shoebury, shortly after 9:30am on Tuesday, October 16, and threatened three members of staff with crowbars before stealing a quantity of diamond rings and other items of jewellery.

The pair then got into a waiting blue Citroen Picasso, which was parked near to the vet surgery in Richmond Avenue. This vehicle was recovered near Thorpe Bay Yacht Club, in Barrow Sands, a short time later.

DC Andy Coles, said: "We're still looking for witnesses to the actual robbery and those who saw the men transfer into a blue Picasso at the yacht club.

"We would also urge people to take a long, close look at the efit and contact us with a name. This man and his accomplice need to be taken off the streets before they have the



opportunity to strike again."

The man pictured in the efit is described as being of Mediterranean appearance, is aged in his mid-late 20s, is approximately 6ft tall and is of slim build. At the time, he was wearing a jacket with the hood up and khaki trousers.

Nobody in the shop was injured. Anyone with information should call Southend police station on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

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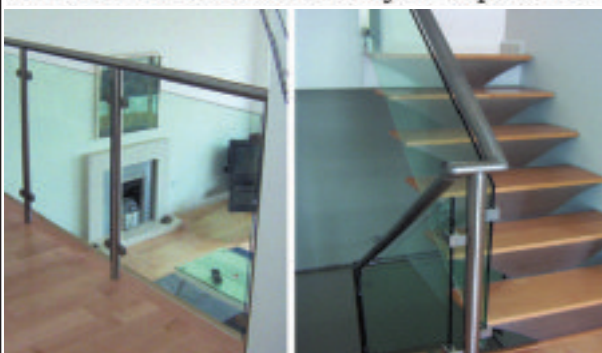
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4 categories: 0 - 9 months, 10 - 18 months, 19 months - 3 years and 4 - 6 years

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All the babies entered in the competition will appear in the Baby & Toddler of the Year supplement printed in Yellow Advertiser on Thursday 22nd November 2012, and on our website

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Voting telephone and text lines will appear in the supplement and on our website

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You can vote as many times as you like.

Closing date for voting is Monday 3rd December 2012.

The top 40 babies - 10 from each category - will

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Time waits for no man - even 007

By Damon Smith

In the 50 years since Ian Fleming's debonair secret agent introduced himself to Sylvia Trench at a card table in Dr No, global politics have changed beyond recognition.

The Iron Curtain has fallen, the Cold War has thawed, the People's Republic Of China has emerged as a superpower and terrorism has shifted into the digital realm, forcing James Bond and his colleagues at MI6 to evolve.

The latest Bond, Daniel Craig, has rugged physicality in abundance but his one-note interpretation of the spy who is shaken but never stirred remains devoid of personality.

But Skyfall is undoubtedly the best instalment of Craig's tenure to date.

Director Sam Mendes sensibly surrounds his leading man with an ensemble of award-winning actors, who bring gravitas and humour to their iconic roles.

This tour-de-force supporting cast encourages Craig to raise his game but also exposes his weaknesses as an actor, most noticeably in a pivotal scene of heartbreak, which relies

on a drenching from a previous fist fight to send droplets of water down his inexpressive face, suggesting the tears of a momentarily broken man.

In the brilliantly orchestrated action sequences, Craig is in his element and Mendes opens with a breathtaking 12-minute pre-credits sequence, which draws heavily from the Bourne franchise to propel Bond and field agent Eve (Naomie Harris) through the winding streets of Istanbul.

The mission ends in apparent tragedy, heralding the sombre chords of Adele's soaring theme song that harks back to the belting ballads of Shirley Bassey.

With Bond reportedly killed in action, section chief M (Dame Judi Dench) pens an obituary as a political storm rages around her.

A database of MI6 assets has fallen into



LICENSE TO KILL: Daniel Craig as Bond

Picture by PA Photo/Sony UK

the wrong hands, compromising undercover agents around the world.

This dereliction of duty puts M and the department's Chief Of Staff, Bill Tanner (Rory Kinnear), in the firing line and they are summoned to Westminster before a committee including the new Chairman of the Intelligence And Security Committee, Mallory (Ralph Fiennes), and ambitious rival Clair Dower (Helen McCrory).

Dench is wonderful as ever and really excels when she abandons her desk for the field of action.

Supporting actress Oscar nominations have been

bestowed for far less.

The closing 20 minutes are the only obvious misstep by screenwriters Neal Purvis, Robert Wade and John Logan, who telegraph their intentions early on when Severine asks Bond if he will kill Silva and 007 responds "someone usually dies."

Director Mendes gets high on nostalgia to the obvious delight of Bond purists.

However, he spends slightly too long looking back and not enough looking forward, and consequently stumbles with the lacklustre final showdown more befitting of an episode of The A-Team than the second biggest film franchise in history.

FILM FACTS

Skyfall (12A, 143 mins)

Action/Thriller.

Starring: Daniel Craig, Dame Judi Dench, Javier Bardem, Ben Whishaw, Naomie Harris, Ralph Fiennes, Berenice Marlohe, Rory Kinnear, Albert Finney, Helen McCrory.

Director: Sam Mendes.

Rating 8/10

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Army, Hadleigh, every Tuesday 7.30pm, guest speakers, outings, tea/cakes, all welcome, all ages, 50p, further details Christine 01702 551470.

■ Exercise Class for people with breathing difficulties, run by 'Breathe Easy' part of the British Lung Foundation, Ambleside Sports and Social Club, Ambleside Drive, Southend, Tuesdays 12.45-2.30pm, 01702 610050/466827.

■ Pathfinders Blind and Partially Sighted Group meets every Tuesday and Friday, Fryerns Baptist Church, Whitmore Way, wide range of activities and outings, Tuesdays 9.30am-2pm and Fridays 10am-2.30pm.

■ Heirloom Bears, The George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over 50s, every Tuesday 10am-noon. 01268 465854.

■ Chess, The George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over 50s, every Tuesday 1.30-3.30pm, 01268 465854.

■ Singles Social Group, meets The Meadow Lark, Artillery Avenue, Shoebury (just past Asda roundabout), age group 50-65, Tuesdays 8pm, 07752 613021.

■ Singles Friendship Club for 50 plus, South Benfleet Social Club, every Tuesday 8.15pm, further details Maureen 01268 692998.

■ Carpet Bowls, Eastwood Community Centre, top of Morrison's car park, every Tuesday 1.45-3.45pm, (and every Thursday 3.30-5.30pm), no experience necessary, non competitive, £2 per session including tea, joining fee £5, first session free.

■ Top Cats Social Club, (Southend Menap), Castle View School, Meppel Avenue, Canvey, Tuesdays 7-9.45pm, for adults with learning disabilities age 25 plus, £2 per session, membership details 01702 341250.

■ Tuesday Luncheon Club, Inter-Church Caring for the Elderly and Disabled, Avenue Baptist Church Hall, Milton Road, Westcliff, for people living alone or with their carers, further details 01702 478691/525141/340617.

■ Depression: Self Help Group, every Tuesday 8-9.30pm, and Thursdays 12.30-2pm, we are a very successful and caring group, Michael 01268 527283.

■ Little Lunchers Activity Club, St Michael's Church, Rayleigh, every Tuesday 11.45am-1.15pm.

■ Vange Tots, The Vange Community Centre, Vange Hill Drive, Vange, Tuesdays 9.30-11.30am, admission £1, snack and drinks provided for all. 01268 498642.

■ Shoebury Flagship, Rainbow Children's

Centre, Friars School, Constable Way, Shoebury, every Tuesday 1.30-3.30pm, health visiting team offering activities, advice and support for parents with babies and children aged up to 5 years. 01702 577656.

■ Cherrydown Children's Centre, 4 Cherrydown West, Basildon, Toddler Development (9-18 months), 10-11.30am; Baby Development (0-9 months) 10-11.30am; Healthy Snack 11.30pm-noon; Breastfeeding Support Group noon-2pm.

Wednesday, November 7

■ Circle Dancing, Wesley Methodist Church, Room 3, Elm Road, Leigh, 1.30-3pm, further details Pat 020 8556 3508.

■ Group Support, Basildon Eating Disorders and Mental Health Support (BEAMS), meet first Wednesday of each month 8-9pm, helpline other Wednesdays 5-9pm. 01268 442059/07944 189640.

■ Live Music, Belvedere Jazz and Music Club, Belvedere Function Centre, Billericay, Mark Stratford and Chris Neil Quartet, 8pm, 07850 607075.

■ Talk, Leigh Travel Club, The Iveagh Hall, 67 Leigh Road, Leigh, 'Cultural Tours with a Culinary Twist', 7.30pm for 7.45pm start, admission £2 includes refreshments, further details Lynda 01702 474475.

■ New Weekly Tea Dance, Richmond Hall, High Road, Benfleet, large free car park (entrance off Richmond Avenue), ballroom, Latin and sequence, 2-4.30pm, £4 includes refreshments, strictly over 18s, call Graham 01268 752473.

■ Line Dancing Lessons, St Margaret's Church Hall, Lime Avenue, Leigh, 12.30-2.30pm. 01268 281488.

■ Health Walk, Canvey Sea Wall, 10.30am, meet Labworth car park, Canvey Island, every Wednesday, details 01702 318121.

■ Meeting, Al Anon, International Support Group for families, wives, husbands, friends of alcoholics and other addictions, 1 Sutton Road, All Saints Church (Vicarage), Southchurch, Southend, Wednesdays 7.30pm, all welcome (non-denominational).

■ Pulse Drum Club, St David's Church Hall, Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, every Wednesday 3.45pm - 4.45pm, £3 per session. 01702 540111.

■ Activity sessions, The Megacentre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, (term time only), for children with special needs aged five-18, free admission, siblings welcome, details 01268 779100.

■ Palace Writers Group, every

Wednesday 7.30pm, alternating venues with the Palace and Cliffs Pavilion, open mic events and public readings planned, further details Emily 01702 390472.

■ Played Bowls Before? Come and try it at FS&S Club, Gardiners Close, Basildon, all weather green, free coaching given, regular club mornings, call Chris 01268 419831.

Thursday, November 8

■ Meeting, Gt Baddow Horticultural Society, Parish Hall, illustrated talk on Gardens of Japan, 7.30pm, all welcome without charge, raffle, refreshments, vacancies remain for new committee members, details on night.

■ Health Walk, Hockley Woods, 10.45am, car parking in Hockley Woods Car Park, every Thursday, details 01702 318121.

■ Jazz, Ron Spack's Dinner Jazz with Mike Warner (guitar), Rayleigh Lodge Thai Restaurant, The Chase, Rayleigh, 7.30pm, 01268 742149.

■ Live classes, every Thursday at Ambleside Social Club, Ambleside Drive, Southend, from 8pm, £4 (first night free), all ages welcome, no need to bring a partner. 07771 831507.

■ Buddies Over 50 Singles Club, Anchor Pub, Benfleet, 8.30pm every Thursday, meet new friends, varied social activities, further details Jill 01268 753667.

■ Meeting, Westcliff National Spiritualist Church, Hildaville Drive, Westcliff, every service we have mediums that demonstrate clairvoyance, Thursdays 7.30pm and Sundays 6.30pm.

■ Coffee, Cake and Chat, WI Hall, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh, ladies and gentlemen, join us every Thursday 2pm, further details Di 07952 148636 or Linda 07504 114762.

■ Stalls in Outpatients Department, next to post box, Southend Hospital, books, bric-a-brac, hand knits etc, every Thursday 8.30am-3.30pm, all proceeds to Bosom Pals Appeal.

■ Ballroom Dancing, St Peter's New Mazedon Hall, Eastwood Road North, Leigh, music and dancing to suit everyone, come and make friends, every Thursday 8-10.30pm.

■ Dance About, St Mark's Church Hall, Princes Street, Thursdays 7-8pm, all kinds of music and dancing.

■ Tea Dance, St James' Church Hall, Emsleigh Drive, Leigh, ballroom, Latin and sequence, every Thursday 2-4.15pm. 01702 216726.

■ Ceramics, The George Hurd Centre,

Audley Way, Basildon, for the over 50s, every Thursday 2-4pm, details 01268 465854.

■ Why not try Carpet Bowls, The Salvation Army Hall, Elm Road, Leigh, Thursdays 2-4pm, £4, first 3 weeks free, details 01702 553546.

■ Short Mat Bowls, Willows Park, James Hornsby School, Leinster Road, Laindon, every Thursday 7.30pm, first 3 weeks free, details 01277 625027.

■ Clairvoyance, Shoebury Spiritual Centre, The Sandpiper Community Centre, Sandpiper Close, Shoebury, Thursdays 8-10pm, free healing, admission £3, 01702 476087.

■ Healing, The Cedars, Castle Road, Rayleigh, fully trained healers by Essex Healers Association, Thursdays 10-11.30am, all welcome.

Friday, November 9

■ Drama Classes, Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, The Stables, Chalkwell Park Drive, Leigh, not a stage school, designed to increase children's life skills, Fridays after school, to enrol call Dina 01245 328680.

■ Bargain Box Open, Pastoral Centre, St Martin's Church, Basildon (Church walk near Marks and Spencer), every Friday 10am-noon, good quality/nearly new clothes, bric-a-brac, books, videos etc, tea/coffee, all welcome, no entrance charge.

■ Table Tennis, Laindon Community Centre, Aston Road, off High Street, for over 50s, any standard, friendly group, every Friday 11am-1pm, free parking. 07931 564105.

■ Table Tennis, St Andrew's Church Hall, Church Road, Shoebury, every Friday 2-4pm, 01702 296708.

■ Table Tennis, Markhams Chase Sports Centre, Basildon, every Friday 2pm, £2.50 per session.

■ Modern Sequence Tea Dance, St James' Church Hall, Emsleigh Drive, Leigh, Fridays 1.45-3.45pm, details Henry 01702 293794.

■ Stone Carving, Sculpture plus Lettering, Studio Workshop, 39a West Road, Shoebury, professional tuition, traditional tools, Fridays 8-10pm, details Jim Davis 01702 292867.

■ Evening of Clairvoyance, St Edmunds Hall, St Edmunds Close, (off Pantile Avenue), Southend, Fridays 8pm, healing from 7pm.

■ Clairvoyance, Hockley Old Fire Station, Southend Road, Hockley, visiting mediums, Fridays 7.30-9.30pm.

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travel

A journey to remember our heroes

by Anthony Looch

It is now nearly 100 years since young Hugh Cameron Smith patriotically told the lie which ended his life in his teens, and yet when you hear his story in the great Cloth Hall of Ypres it is still deeply moving.

In the Flanders Fields Museum, opened in the splendidly rebuilt hall six years ago, you enter Hugh's life in 1915 when he was a 17-year old lithographer in Paisley and volunteering for the British Army.

He was below the legal age for the forces, so his father blocked his first attempt to enlist. Undaunted, he headed for Liverpool, lied about his age and went out to the Western Front on March 1, 1916.

Later that year he was killed in action. His remains were never found, although the search for him, and others missing like him, still goes on.

Although I grew up familiar with stories of the terrible battles of the Great War of 1914-18, the grim reality of the terror and the bloodshed of these terrible days only really hit home for me on our three-day tour of some of the principal battle-field sites, graveyards and museums of Belgium and France.

Via Eurostar, you can be whisked in an hour or two to the scenes of those horrors of almost a century ago, to the road signs to places such as Armentieres and Picardy, immortalised in song by soldiers, and to see the legendary poppies of Flanders Fields.

Much of what I saw brought tears to my eyes. No amount of reading, or TV programmes and films about the First World

War, will prepare you for this.

Our first stop was Lijssenthoek military cemetery, outside Ypres, containing nearly 11,000 graves, row upon row of them in neat, perfectly tended grounds.

It's the largest of the hospital cemeteries which grew up around the casualty clearing stations to the east and west of Poperinge.

British soldiers and victims from France, Germany, America, New Zealand, China, South Africa, Ukraine, Norway and Italy are buried here.

Our next call was the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917 at nearby Zonnebeke. The museum is in an old chateau which contains an amazing collection of historical artefacts, photographs and maps.

Here, the "dugout experience" brings home the claustrophobic conditions of life at the front line.

On we travelled, to the lovely old town of Ypres which was reduced to a lunar landscape by German artillery. Its centre was restored with amazing accuracy when the guns finally fell silent.

An exhibition of "then and now" aerial photographs shows how the landscape was slowly recovered after 1918. Extremely effective audio-visual material and hundreds of authentic objects explain the scale of the slaughter.

My next stop was the huge Notre Dame de Lorette National French Cemetery, just off the



PEACE: A war memorial in Ypres. Picture by PA Photo/Visit Flanders

Arras-Bethune road.

This cemetery has a tall basilica and an ossuary. Of the almost 40,000 French soldiers buried here, about 20,000 are unidentified, and the ossuary also preserves the ashes of French citizens who died in Nazi concentration camps.

Throughout my trip, I passed the sites of battlefields and visited some. The miles of peaceful green countryside, with clusters of trees, could have been anywhere in England, and it required a stretch of imagination to visualise what these areas would have looked like while they were being torn apart in a major war.

Goodness knows if peace has been underpinned by the European Union - or by other more benign influences. My journey left me with overwhelming sympathy for the brave and patriotic men who died so cruelly and prematurely, and for loved ones left behind to grieve for years.

But I was also reminded of something positive. Although the human race tears itself apart at times, it is amazing how it always picks itself up afterwards, dusts itself off and gets back to normality.

TRAVEL FACTS

Anthony was a guest of Visit Flanders. He stayed at the Novotel Ypres, where tour operator Great Escapes offers three nights' B&B from £104pp (car and four passengers) and from £123 (car plus two) until Mar 31.

Prices include a free 3rd night with breakfast (available for Fri-Tues arrivals all year), return P&O ferry Dover-Calais crossings and entrance to the In Flanders Fields museum (www.inflandersfields.be/en)

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eating out

Advertisement feature

Celebrate Christmas in style at Akropolis

CHRISTMAS bookings are now being taken at Akropolis, one of the area's most popular Greek restaurants.

The Westcliff eatery will be the perfect place for pre-Christmas parties and get-togethers this festive season, whether you want to celebrate with friends, family or work colleagues.

The restaurant will also be open over the main Christmas period and anyone interested in booking a table is urged to call for further information and book early to avoid disappointment.

The Akropolis has attracted a growing band of fans since opening its doors 10 years ago and it's hard not to see why. With 25 main dishes, 28 starters, two set meals, and a variety of desserts on the menu, there is always something new to try.

For those with a huge appetite to satisfy, Akropolis serves up a Greek Meze menu every day for £19.95 per person.

The menu, which introduces diners to the Cypriot way of eating, starts with tasty dips and pitta bread, and is followed by cold starters and fish dishes, Cypriot wine sausages, smoked loin of pork and grilled goat's milk cheese. Then it's onto the meats, and even Kleftico and Stifado for those looking for more. To finish you are given a taste of Greek Pastries and an array of fresh fruits.

The Akropolis Meze, available for two or more people, is ideal for parties as the menu is meant to be lingered over.

There is also a Kleftico Feast, including traditional dips and pitta bread, Kleftico, Greek Pastries and a platter of fresh fruits, for £17.95 per person.

The mouth-watering food is not the only Akropolis attraction - the restaurant also produces a good line in live music on most days through the week.



The restaurant can comfortably seat up to 60 people and has a well-stocked, fully licensed bar.

Staff can cater for any occasion whether it's a quiet meal for two or a birthday celebration.

With its experienced chefs and friendly, helpful staff, Akropolis offers a top quality, value-for-money evening out.

Akropolis, which can also satisfy any special

dietary needs and offer children-friendly dishes, is open seven days a week, from 5pm to midnight from Monday to Thursday, from 5pm to 1am on Friday and Saturday, and from noon to midnight on Sunday.

The Akropolis is located at 120 Station Road, Westcliff, and ample parking is available just 50 yards away, by the Cliffs Pavilion.

For further information call 01702 437963.

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Advertisement feature

eating out

La Romantica spreads the festive cheer

TABLES are being snapped up fast for Christmas festivities at La Romantica, so don't delay and book today.

The restaurant, which will be matching last year's fantastic Christmas period, is nearly fully booked for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Eve, so anyone interested is urged to book now to avoid disappointment.

Tables for pre-Christmas meals are also being snapped up, especially for its December Tribute Nights, so make sure you plan your festive fun with friends, family or work colleagues as soon as possible.

Marco, who runs La Romantica with his father, Antonio Dinallo, said: "Christmas bookings are coming in thick and fast so we want to remind people to book quickly so as not to be disappointed."

Every year the restaurant goes out of its way to spread some festive cheer so if you are looking for somewhere to celebrate with family, work colleagues or friends then it costs just £22.95 from Saturday to Wednesday evenings for a three-course meal with coffee.

Those looking for something extra will enjoy the restaurant's music and cabaret evenings every Thursday and Friday, which also include a three-course meal and coffee, for just £24.95.

Evenings includes a Luther Vandross tribute on December 6; entertainment from Nardia on December 7; a Soul Night on December 13; soul vocalist Kenny Cheales on December 14; the Paul Cantara Legends Tribute Show on December 20; and the After Dark Duo on December 21. Its Christmas Eve Special will also include a special Solo Ratpack remembrance with Dean Weedon.

Fantastic three-course meals with coffee will be served from noon till late on both Christmas Day and Boxing Day, for just £49.95 and £24.95 respectively, while the on New Year's Eve the restaurant will be hosting a special Gala Night. The evening, which will include music and a disco into the early hours, as well as a delicious



three-course meal, novelties and a glass of bubbly costs just £39.95 per person.

As well as its Christmas events the restaurant holds a number of popular cabaret nights throughout the year, which cost just £22.95 per person and include a delicious three-course meal.

Up-and-coming evenings include a tribute to David Essex on November 23 and an evening with soul singer Carol Black on November 30.

La Romantica, which has been at the heart of the community for the last 43 years, has a true Italian feel and an extensive menu of traditional, home cooked dishes, many of which are prepared with fresh fish and meat bought specially from London's Billingsgate and Smithfield markets.

The popular restaurant, which is also the ideal

location for a quiet meal for two, offers a set evening menu including a starter and a main course for £12.95, and a Full House four-course meal for only £16.50.

On Sunday you can also enjoy a delicious starter and main meal for £9.95 or its popular four-course Sunday Best for only £13.99.

The restaurant, which seats up to 65 people, can be hired for a wide range of occasions from birthdays to weddings, as well as for other events including private functions and funerals.

For further information about La Romantica, which can be found at 9 High Street, Rayleigh, and is open from 5pm till late from Tuesday to Saturday, and all day Sunday, call 01268 771512 or visit www.laromanticarestaurant.co.uk

La Romantica

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Cruise & Maritime Voyages is staging a series of Festive Welcome Aboard Marco Polo events, which can include lunch and a show, dinner and a show, or dinner and a show with an overnight stay.

As well as delicious meal and stylish entertainment, those boarding Marco Polo at the London Cruise Terminal, Tilbury, can also get the opportunity to sample the cabins and facilities available.

Lunch costs £49 per person and dinner £79 per person and both include a four-course meal, welcome cocktails and wine with the meal. Dinner, show and overnight stays start from £89.

Cruise & Maritime Voyages has teamed up with Yellow Advertiser to offer two people the chance to win a Festive Welcome Aboard Marco Polo evening and overnight event.

The prize – which is worth a total of £258 – will include:

- ◆ A cocktail reception.
- ◆ A tour of the ship's facilities.
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FEATURE

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- B) An Italian footballer?
- C) The inventor of mints?

To enter, call 0905 053 3200 and leave your answer, along with your name, address and contact telephone number. Alternatively text CRUISE and then your answer - A, B or C - along with your name and address to 63333.

Calls cost 51p per minute from a BT landline. Calls from other networks will vary and from mobiles will cost considerably more. Texts cost 50p plus your standard network rate.

Entries must be received by midnight on Wednesday, November 21, 2012. Entries received after that time will not be counted but you may still be charged.

If you do not wish to receive details of other products or services, please text or state EXIT at the end of your message.

You can also enter via post. Send your answer, along with your name, address and telephone number, to Welcome Aboard Marco Polo competition, c/o Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1AH.

Please write the word 'EXIT' on your entry if you do not wish your details to be passed on to Cruise & Maritime Voyages to use for marketing purposes.



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FOR SALE

RAYLEIGH £212,500

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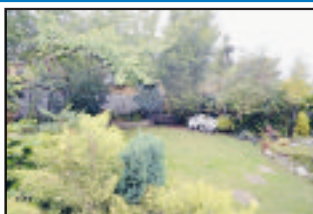
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**Highlands, Leigh-on-Sea
£162,500**

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**Estuary views, South Leigh
£169,995**

A two bedroom 2nd floor flat with half share of freehold situated just off GRAND PARADE walking distance of LEIGH BROADWAY AND CHALKWELL STATION. Keys available for viewing - no onward chain



Leigh-on-Sea £489,950

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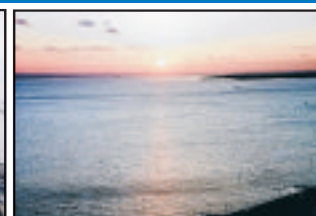
**Westcliff-on-Sea
£420,000**

KEYS AVAILABLE TO VIEW this elegant and very impressive detached executive home situated close to local schools and the hospital. The superb accommodation includes 14'6 x 10'6 5th bedroom/ tv room, cloaks/ w.c., large lounge, separate dining room, 15'9 x 13' extensively fitted kitchen/ breakfast room, four large first floor bedrooms, en suite shower room to master bedroom, large family bathroom etc, DOUBLE GARAGE PLUS PARKING WITH IN AND OUT DRIVEWAY - NO ONWARD CHAIN ref etl5052



**Cliff top apartment with Breathtaking
Estuary Views £189,995**

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Leigh-on-Sea £725,000

A truly exceptional detached family home situated in one of Leigh's most sought after locations close to the nature reserve. The property is beautifully presented and affords top quality throughout. Four fitted double bedrooms, 2 x en suite's, elegant lounge, truly stunning 25'3 x 12'3 open plan dining room and conservatory, superb 24'6 x 15'6 open plan luxury kitchen and family room, cloaks/w.c., utility room, luxury bathroom, lovely secluded south backing plot. ref etl5048



**Close to the beach and
Station £129,995**

Internal viewing essential of this large ground floor purpose built flat, situated close to the beach, Westcliff Station and local shops. 21'9 x 11'5 Lounge / diner with sideways ESTUARY VIEW, 16'8 x 8' fitted kitchen, double glazing, gas c/h, 13'9 x 13'6 double bedroom, Bathroom/w.c., UNDERCOVER PARKING, ref etl5045



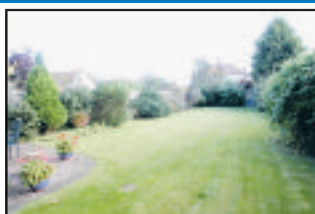
**Leigh-on-Sea
£285,000**

A fully detached three bedroom family house with impressive block paved driveway and parking area for 4-5 cars, large lounge, superb open plan dining room and kitchen, fully fitted with integrated appliances, separate fitted utility room, ground floor cloaks/w.c., 16' x 14'6 master bedroom, Bathroom/w.c., Gas c/h, No onward chain - keys available for viewing ref etl5020



**Requires improvement,
Leigh-on-sea £155,000**

Terraced house with 85' approx south backing garden and garage space (stp) Two bedrooms, main bedroom large enough to convert and provide a 3RD BEDROOM. Spacious fitted kitchen, lounge and dining room. SOME MODERNISATION AND IMPROVEMENT REQUIRED hence price. Ref etl5035



Marine Estate, Leigh £559,950

Outstanding detached house in highly sought after location walking distance of Leigh Station and within the Westleigh Schools Catchment area, four double bedrooms, 23'6 x 11'3 master bedroom suite with en-suite, 18'4 x 11'2 guest bedroom suite with en suite shower room, elegant lounge, separate dining room, separate study, luxury kitchen with granite worktops, utility room, 75' approx rear garden, garage MUST BE VIEWED ! ref etl5061



**Leigh-on-Sea
£349,950**

VACANT - KEYS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING This Very large four bedroom family house in eagerly sought after location close to Belfairs woods and golf course. Large garden, garage plus extra parking, cloaks/w.c., impressive open plan lounge and dining room, double glazed conservatory, 16'2 x 8'6 kitchen, spacious en suite shower room to master bedroom, large family bathroom, gas c/h, d/glazing, no onward chain THIS PROPERTY MUST BE SOLD, SO SENSIBLE OFFERS ARE INVITED ref etl4994



**Westleigh Schools Catchment Area,
Leigh £279,995**

Freshly decorated and available with immediate VACANT POSSESSION this most attractive character three bedroom family house is situated SOUTH OF THE A.13 and walking distance of Leigh Station. 65' rear gardenm gas c/h, spacious lounge, 14'2 x 10' dining room, fitted kitchen, bathroom/w.c., KEYS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ref etl5058



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Bilton Road, HADLEIGH / £250,000



OPEN HOME
THIS
SATURDAY



OPEN HOME, SATURDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 10AM-11AM. JUST TURN UP! 60 Bilton Road, Hadleigh, Essex, SS7 2HH.

Well Presented Three Bedroom Family Home \ Stunning Accommodation \ Lounge 16'1 X 13'11 \ Conservatory 11'11 X 8'7 \ Luxury Fitted Kitchen With Appliances To Remain 9'5 X 8'11 \ Ground Floor Cloakroom \ Bedroom One 12'0 x 7'10 + Door Recess \ Bedroom Two 8'10 x 7'9 \ Bedroom Three 8'6 narrowing to 5'10 x 7'9 \ Four Piece Bathroom Suite \ Good Size Garden \ Double Glazed Throughout \ Gas Central Heating \ Detached Garage \ Corner Plot \ Sought After Location \ Approximately Seven Years NHBC Certificate Remaining \ Viewing Advised \ Call 01702 555888

Arterial Road, RAYLEIGH / £216,995



KEYS HELD



\ Just reduced for a quick sale \ An attractive modern detached three bedroom family house \ Well planned design \ Lounge \ En-suite to master bedroom \ Ground floor cloakroom \ 15'8 fitted kitchen/diner \ Southerly rear garden \ Attached garage \ Double glazing \ Gas central heating \ Three piece bathroom suite \ Three bedrooms \ The property is conveniently situated for Sainsburys \ Close to local schools & bus routes \ East access to A127 \ Keys held to view \ Call 01268 742742 \

HADLEIGH

£215,000



No Onward Chain



Good Size Three Bedroom Semi - Detached Family Home \ Enviably Located Close To Hadleigh Town Centre And Country Park \ Lounge 14'8 X 12'7 \ Dining Room 12'6 X 10'10 \ Kitchen 12'4 X 8'10 \ Bedroom One 14'9 X 11'3 \ Bedroom Two 12'9 X 11'6 \ Bedroom Three 9'2 Max X 7'9 \ First Floor Bathroom With Separate W.C. \ South Backing Rear Garden \ Own Driveway Leading To Detached Garage \ Ample Off Street Parking \ Pleasant Views Over Hadleigh Recreation Ground \ King John Catchment Area \ Excellent Opportunity \ Sole Agents \ Must Be Viewed \ Call 01702 555888

BENFLEET

Guide Price £220 - £230,000



Attractive Detached Bungalow



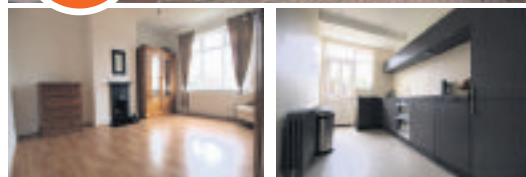
Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow \ Lounge 16'0 x 10'11 \ Kitchen/Diner 16'11 x 8'11 \ Bedroom One 12'11 x 10'11 \ Bedroom Two 10'10 x 8'11 \ Three Piece Bathroom Suite \ Mostly Upvc Double Glazed \ Gas Central Heating \ Long Independent Driveway With Off Street Parking For Numerous Vehicles Leading To Car Port \ Easily Maintained Garden \ Extremely Popular And Convenient Location \ Easy Access Of High Road, Boyce Hill Golf Course And Benfleet Station \ Viewing Advised \ Call 01702 555888

LEIGH-ON-SEA

£370,000



Superb Family Home



Superb Four Bedroom Semi - Detached House Situated South Of The London Road \ Ideally Located For Mainline Station, Bars Restaurants And Shops \ Lounge 16'10 X 11'11 \ Dining Room 14'6 X 10'4 \ Superb Contemporary Style Kitchen 14'4 X 7'1 \ Ground Floor W.C. \ Bedroom One 17'3 X 10'10 \ Bedroom Two 14'7 X 10'9 \ Bedroom Three 10'2 X 6'6 \ Second Floor Bedroom 16'9 Max X 14'5 \ Excellent First Floor Bathroom Suite \ West Backing Rear Garden \ Off Street Parking \ Superb House Having Been Much Improved Yet Retaining Many Original Features Throughout \ Viewing Advised \ Call 01702 555888

RAYLEIGH

£975 pcm



Three Bedroom Linked Detached House/ Lounge 17'6 x 11'2/ Fitted Kitchen 8'10 x 7'9 With Electric Oven & Hob/ Bedroom One 12'3 x 9'10 With Fitted Wardrobes/ Bedroom Two 12'0 x 9'9/ Three Piece Bathroom Suite With Hand Held Shower/ Garage & Off Street Parking/Double Glazed/ Gas Central Heating/ Viewings Strongly Advised/ Call 01702 555888

Thundersley

£825 pcm



Attractive Two Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow/ Good Size Lounge With Patio Doors To Conservatory/ UPVC Double Glazed Conservatory To Rear/ Two Double Bedrooms/Three Piece Bathroom Suite /Kitchen With Washing Machine To Remain/ Detached Garage & Further Parking/ Call 01702 555888

HULLBRIDGE

£169,995



DIY PROJECT

Two bedroom semi detached bungalow \ Set within the highly sought after village location of Hullbridge \ The property offers huge scope for extension \ Requires re-decoration \ We anticipate interest from DIY enthusiasts \ Lounge \ Kitchen \ Conservatory \ Two bedrooms \ Bathroom \ Off street parking \ No onward chain \ Keys Held \ Must be viewed \ Call 01268 742742 \

RAYLEIGH

£185,000



JUST REDUCED

A delightful semi detached two bedroom bungalow \ Situated in this popular and established residential area \ Convenient for local schools, High Street shops and bus routes \ The property benefits from uPVC double glazing \ Fully tiled bathroom and fitted kitchen \ Applicants are strongly advised to arrange to view \ Call 01268 742742

RAYLEIGH

£249,999



A newly refurbished four bedroom semi detached house \ With new luxury fitted kitchen \ Newly fitted bathroom and cloakroom \ Ground floor cloakroom \ Lounge \ Dining area \ Four bedrooms \ Garage & off street parking \ The property is located in the highly sought after Fitzwimarc and Grovedown catchment area \ Call 01268 742742

RAYLEIGH

£249,995



Delightful three bedroom family home \ Set within an elevated position \ Close to the Town Centre, Train Station and Rayleigh Primary School \ The property has been refurbished to an excellent standard \ Lounge/diner \ Kitchen \ Ground floor bedroom three \ Bathroom \ Two first floor bedrooms \ Garage and off street parking \ Landscaped rear garden \ We anticipate significant interest \ Call 01268 742742.

RAYLEIGH

£289,995



Stunning three/four bedroom semi detached Byford built chalet \ Offered with no onward chain \ Benefiting from spacious accommodation and far reaching views over playing fields \ Lounge \ Dining room \ Kitchen \ Conservatory \ Ground Floor Bedroom/ Study \ Three First Floor Bedrooms \ Garage & Off Street Parking \ Ideally located for Rayleigh High Street, mainline station \ Highly sought after Rayleigh Primary catchment area \ Call 01268 742742.

Hadleigh - t: 01702 555 888

Rayleigh - t: 01268 742 742

www.amosstates.com

team



01702 470044

48 Broadway, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 1AG

Fax: 01702 716956

Email: rvhall@btconnect.com

R. V. Hall & company



LEIGH-ON-SEA £274,995

Having views over the estuary towards the Kent coastline, a rare opportunity to purchase this deceptively large detached house ideally located for Broadway, mainline station and Old Leigh. Must be viewed. ehl1563



LEIGH-ON-SEA £325,000

With spacious accommodation arranged over three floors, a four bedroom semi detached house ideally located for broadway shopping facilities and mainline station. No onward chain. ehl1552



LEIGH-ON-SEA £365,000

Situated on the popular Highlands Estate within walking distance of Leigh Old Town and Station A Detached 4 bedroomed family house offering deceptively spacious accommodation. The property is within the Westleigh Schools catchment area whilst local shops are close to hand. Early vacant possession.



LEIGH-ON-SEA £409,995

Situated close to Chalkwell Park and within walking distance of Sea Front and Station a 3 Double Bedroomed detached house that has been well maintained throughout offering many attractive features. The property is within the Chalkwell Schools area and close to Leigh Road shopping facilities.



LEIGH-ON-SEA £319,995

As new. Fully refurbished to an exceptionally high standard. A detached 3 Bedroom Bungalow occupying a large plot and close to local amenities. Fully equipped kitchen, new bathroom suite, en-suite to Master bedroom, new uPVC windows, GSH, re-wired, re-plastered throughout and off-street parking. Early vacant possession.



LEIGH-ON-SEA £139,995

Benefitting from off street parking and own section of rear garden is this exceptional one bedroom first floor flat just north of the A13 yet within easy reach of mainline station and broadway facilities. No onward chain. ehl1554



LEIGH-ON-SEA £369,995

A rare opportunity to purchase this semi detached house situated in this prime, elevated, location, south of Leigh Broadway. Having undergone considerable refurbishment, the property offers a wealth of high quality fittings throughout together with views over the estuary. Vacant.



THORPE BAY OFFERS OVER £250,000

Situated in this extremely popular location a rare opportunity to purchase this sizeable three bedroom semi detached bungalow benefiting from south west backing rear garden, garage and off street parking. No onward chain. Keys held

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SOUTHEND ON SEA £159,950

Terraced house offering substantial ground floor living accommodation along with four bedrooms (three double bedrooms and one small single) gas central heating. The property requires full refurbishment and offers early vacant possession.

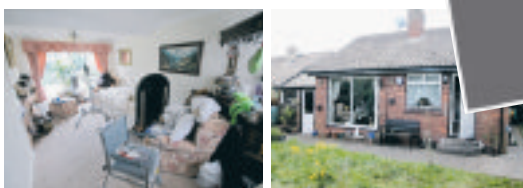
- Terrace House
- Four bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Kitchen
- Utility room
- Ground floor cloakroom
- Bathroom/wc
- Potential off street parking

SOUTHEND ON SEA £154,995



Spacious two bedroom first floor apartment being situated in sought after and popular location and benefitting from a front balcony with superb views overlooking Southchurch Park. The property is well maintained throughout and benefits from off street parking.

LEIGH ON SEA £210,000



Two bedroom detached bungalow benefitting from spacious lounge/diner as well as kitchen/ breakfast room. The property has double glazing and full gas central heating and one and half length attached garage.

SHOEBURYNESSE £174,995



Modern semi detached family house offering spacious ground floor living accommodation. The property also benefits from three good size bedrooms as well as double glazing and gas central heating, West backing rear garden, integral garage and parking.

WESTCLIFF ON SEA £675 pcm



Self contained first floor apartment situated within the sought after Chalkwell Hall Estate above a shop along The Ridgeway. Large lounge, fitted kitchen with washing machine, fridge/freezer and electric cooker, two double bedrooms, bathroom/wc with shower over bath, full double glazing, gas central heating, close to Chalkwell Station.

LEIGH ON SEA £900 pcm



First and second floor maisonette situated above a shop along the Broadway, large accommodation comprising spacious reception room, fitted kitchen/diner with integrated four ring gas hob with oven and grill under, extractor fa, plumbing and recess for washing machine, three bedrooms (two double and one large single), bathroom with panelled bath and shower over, separate wc, full double glazing, gas central heating, approached via a rear access from Leigh Hall Road.

SOUTHEND ON SEA £575 pcm



Large fully self contained first floor flat being situated within a central location in Southchurch Road. The commences with its own entrance hall with stairs leading to a spacious landing. There is a large lounge to the front and the property offers two double bedrooms. The bathroom/wc also benefits from an electric shower over and there is a kitchen with electric oven left as a good will gesture.

SOUTHEND ON SEA £575 pcm



Self contained first floor flat which has been newly refurbished throughout and includes new fitted kitchen with integrated oven and hob, and new shower/wc. There are two bedrooms, one double and one single, and the property is newly carpeted throughout. There are also stairs down to own rear garden

WESTCLIFF ON SEA £750 pcm



Attractive mid terrace house being situated in a central location of Westcliff within close proximity of town centre and mainline railway station. The property offers two reception rooms to the ground floor and there is a modern fitted kitchen including an integrated electric oven and hob with a built in upright fridge/freezer, two double bedrooms and a modern spacious bathroom/wc, mainly double glazed and gas central heating, rear garden, off street parking space to the rear of the property. Working tenants only,

Call us on 01702 433663 to view any property or visit www.sorrellproperty.co.uk for more details



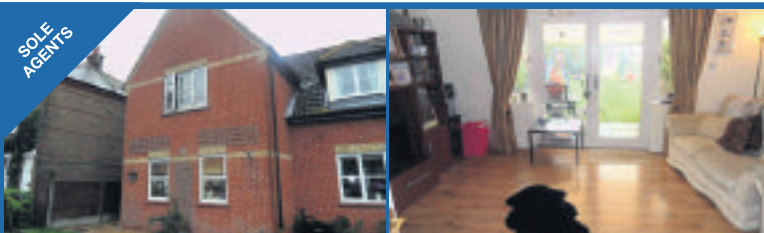
norton

PROPERTIES

01702 394004

Info@nortonproperties.co.uk

SOLE AGENTS



GREAT STAMBRIDGE £209,950

Norton Properties are pleased to bring to the market this Three bedroom semi detached house located in Great Stambridge. The property offers a Lounge to rear with views overlooking the garden, Kitchen/diner to front, Ground floor Cloakroom, Family Bathroom and off street parking to the rear of the property.

SOLE AGENTS



WESTCLIFF £174,950

Located close to Hamlet Court Road and Westcliff train station Norton properties bring to the market this fully refurbished internally and externally Three bedroom first floor flat with original features. The property has a new fitted Kitchen and Bathroom with own section of garden and off street parking to the front and a share of the Freehold.

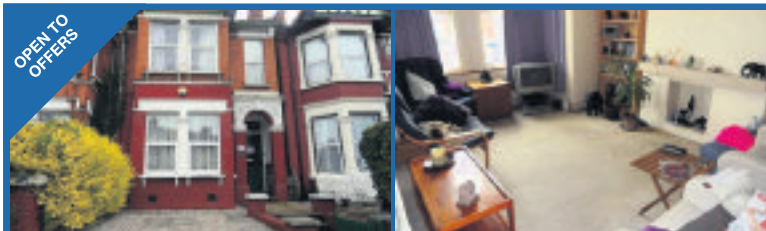
THREE RECEPTIONS



WESTCLIFF £194,995

Norton Properties bring to the market this Four bedroom, Three reception End of terraced family house which offers a West backing garden, Fitted Kitchen, Wet shower room, Double glazed and Gas Central Heating and conveniently local for local shops along London Road

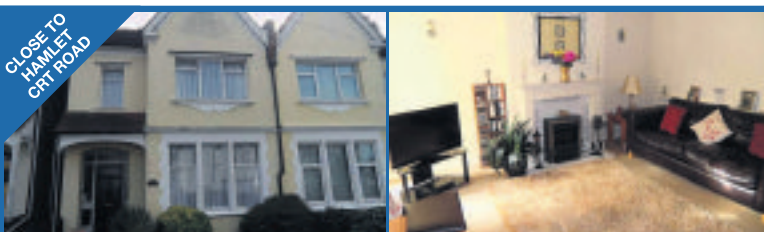
OPEN TO OFFERS



WESTCLIFF £94,995

Two bedroom first floor flat which is located within easy access of Westcliff & Prittlewell train station and the property having its own rear garden, Gas Central Heating and Kitchen/diner to rear.

CLOSE TO HAMLET CRT ROAD



WESTCLIFF £189,995

We offer this 3 bedroom end of terraced house which has 2 receptions, Fitted kitchen, 4 piece bathroom suite, 35' rear garden an located within easy access of local shops in Hamlet Court Road and Westcliff station.

CLOSE TO HOSPITAL



WESTCLIFF £285,000

Located close to Southend Hospital and in the Earls Hall School catchment area is this 2 bedroom, 2 reception detached bungalow the property offers a good size rear garden, Fitted kitchen, no onward chain and garage with driveway and the bungalow has potential for extending in the roof and rear subject to planning.

GARAGE & PARKING



NORTH SHOEBURY £109,950

Located in the popular Churchfields Estate of North Shoebury is this well-presented one bedroom starter flat. The property offers a modern fitted kitchen, a spacious lounge/ diner, double bedroom and bathroom. With communal gardens and off street parking an early viewing is strongly advised to appreciate its internal condition and location.

OUT BUILDINGS



THE GARRISON £539,950

DONT MISS THIS VENDOR WILL PAY THE STAMP DUTY !!! Situated yards from the Estuary is this Impressive Four bedroom semi detached house situated on the historic "Shoebury Garrison" with Outbuildings, Three reception rooms, Double Garage, En-suite to master bedroom, Fitted Kitchen and we feel an internal viewing is required to appreciate the size and quality of the accommodation on offer

GARAGE & PARKING



SHOEBURYNESSE £100,000 OFFER IN EXCESS OF

Located close to Asda Norton properties are pleased to offer this One bedroom mews style property. The property offers No onward chain and has a Lounge 17'8 into recess x 10'1, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom and Garage.

GROUND FLOOR



LEIGH 127,500

Norton Properties offer this One bedroom Ground floor purpose built flat which is within walking distance of local shops in Leigh Broadway and Leigh train station. The flat has double glazing, communal garden to rear with parking and offers No onward chain.

Stuart Thomas

sales lettings management

Successful because we care



CANVEY ISLAND OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £190,000

WALKING DISTANCE OF SEAFRONT
SPACIOUS LOUNGE
GOOD SIZED DINING ROOM
GROUND FLOOR CLOAKROOM

SHOWER CUBICLE TO MASTER BED
LARGE DRESSING ROOM/ BEDROOM FIVE
75FT WELL MAINTAINED GARDEN
DETACHED GARAGE



BENFLEET £189,995

OPEN HOME - SATURDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2012 - 11am - 12noon - 20 MORELAND AVENUE, BENFLEET, SS7 4ES

A spacious family home (in need of some modernisation) which is within walking distance of local school. Three good size bedrooms and West facing garden. There will be no onward chain.



THUNDERSLEY £249,995

OPEN HOME - SATURDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2012 - 2PM-3PM - 25 BRACKEN WAY, THUNDERSLEY, SS7 3RA

IMMACULATE THREE BEDROOM FAMILY HOME OFFERING: - LUXURY BATHROOM AND GROUND FLOOR SHOWER ROOM; LOUNGE AND SEPARATE DINING ROOM; STUDY/PLAYROOM; LARGE DETACHED GARAGE SUITABLE FOR WORKSHOP/GAMES ROOM OR GYM.NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST TURN UP!



BENFLEET £295,000

APPROX 100' REAR GARDEN
SPACIOUS LOUNGE
WALKING DISTANCE BENFLEET
STATION

DINING ROOM
BREAKFAST ROOM
UTILITY ROOM
FOUR BEDROOMS



THUNDERSLEY £199,995

THREE BEDROOM FAMILY HOME
WEST BACKING GARDEN
CONSERVATORY
BATHROOM WITH SEPARATE SHOWER

CLOSE TO ALL LOCAL AMENITIES
BEDROOMS ALL WITH FITTED WARDROBES
SOLE AGENTS & NO ONWARD CHAIN
OFF STREET PARKING - GARAGE



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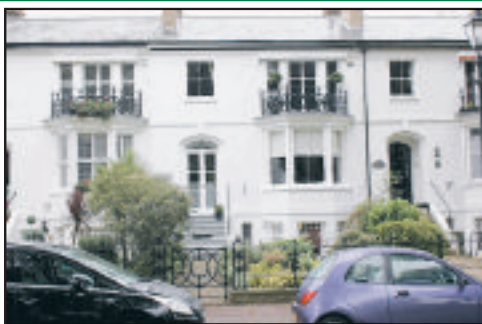
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Southend-on-Sea Essex SS1 1BW
(Opposite Clarence Road Car Park)

email:info@hopsonproperty.co.uk
www.hopsonproperty.co.uk



CLIFFTOWN CONSERVATION AREA £650,000

Three bedroom, three storey Victorian townhouse located in the heart of the Conservation Area. Two reception rooms. Modern kitchen & bathroom. Permit parking for two vehicles. Established garden. Views over Southend bowls club. Sought after Clifftown Conservation Area. Additional self-contained studio/office with integral double garage. Unique opportunity. Early viewing advised.



CLIFFTOWN CONSERVATION AREA £575,000

Impressive four/five bedroom townhouse located in the heart of the Conservation Area. Three reception rooms. Huge kitchen/diner opening onto outside living space. Superb quality kitchen with integrated appliances. Luxury wet. Master bedroom with balcony offering estuary views. Dressing room/bedroom five. South west facing rear garden. Parking to the rear.



CLIFFTOWN CONSERVATION AREA £495,000

Three storey two/three bedroom Victorian townhouse located in the heart of the Clifftown Conservation Area. Reception hall. Sitting room. Formal dining room/reception three. Ground floor cloakroom. Wet room. Bedroom/further reception room. Superb family kitchen/family room with integrated appliances. Family bathroom. Private roof terrace & established garden. South facing balcony. Gas central heating. Many character features. Residents permit parking available.



SOUTHEND ON SEA £84,950

Fourth floor flat located close to Southend town centre and Victoria mainline railway station. Lounge with open plan fitted kitchen. Two bedrooms. Bathroom/w.c. Economy 7 heating. Double glazed. Parking. Ideal first time purchase.



MILTON CONSERVATION AREA £279,995

Three bedroom end terraced house located in the Milton Conservation Area. Lounge. Dining Room. Breakfast room. Kitchen. Ground floor cloakroom. Bathroom. South facing rear garden approximately 40'. Off-street parking to the front. Currently used as letting rooms. Easy access to town centre & mainline railway station. No onward chain.



CHALKWELL HALL ESTATE £199,950

Large ground floor self-contained two bedroom flat located on the Chalkwell Hall Estate. Own entrance door. Entrance hall. Lounge/diner. Modern fitted kitchen with built-in oven & hob. Two double bedrooms. Bathroom/w.c. Gas central heating via radiators. UPVC double glazed windows. Private rear garden. Close proximity of seaford & Westcliff mainline railway station.



CLIFFTOWN CONSERVATION AREA £189,995

One bedroom upper ground floor apartment benefiting from impressive estuary views. Lounge. Bedroom. Kitchen. Breakfast room. Bathroom. Gas central heating. Part double glazed. Allocated parking space for one vehicle to the rear of the property.



SHOREFIELD CONSERVATION AREA £330,000

Enormous six bedroom family house with three large reception rooms. Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom. Separate utility room. Ground floor cloakroom. Large rear terrace with estuary views. Modern gas central heating. Good decorative order throughout. Many original features. Rear courtyard garden. Close to cliffs and beaches. No onward chain.



NOTICE OF OFFER

Flat 3 Berkley Court, 140 Gainsborough Drive, Westcliff on Sea, Essex, SS0 0SN
We advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £119,950.
Any person wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents of their best offer prior to exchange of contracts



SOUTHEND ON SEA £139,995

Two bedroom ground floor spacious apartment. Lounge 15'6" into bay x 11'8". Recently installed bathroom suite. Double glazed. Gas fired heating. Own section of west backing rear garden. Good decorative order throughout. Long lease. Walking distance of Southend town centre and railway station.



SOUTHEND ON SEA £139,995

Two bedroom first floor flat in the heart of the Clifftown Conservation Area. Lounge. Kitchen. Recently installed shower room. Re-decorated throughout. Secure entry by entry phone system. Gated access to allocated parking. Walking distance of town centre & mainline railway station. Short walk to seaford & Cliffs Pavilion.



WESTCLIFF ON SEA £117,500

Completely refurbished upper ground floor one bedroom apartment located close to Westcliff mainline railway station. Westcliff seaford and Hamlet Court Road shopping area. New electrics and boiler. Replastered throughout. New kitchen and bathroom. Double glazed. Allocated parking. Estuary views.



SOUTHEND ON SEA £154,950

Three bed house close to Seaford with Lounge, Dining Room, Breakfast room, Kitchen, Double Glazing and Courtyard garden. No onward chain - would suit first time buyer or buy to let investor

LETTINGS



LANCASTER GARDENS, SOUTHEND £825 PCM
THREE bedroom family house located close to the Town Centre. LOUNGE. DINING ROOM. FITTED KITCHEN. CENTRAL HEATING. PART DOUBLE GLAZED. GARDEN. Available now. Unfurnished. No Pets. SS1 2NS



METEOR ROAD, WESTCLIFF £500 PCM
Top floor ONE double bedroom flat close to Westcliff railway station. LOUNGE. FITTED KITCHEN WITH OVEN & HOB. BEDROOM WITH STORAGE. CENTRAL HEATING. PRIVATE PARKING SPACE. Available early November. Unfurnished. No Pets. SS0 8DF



MARINE AVENUE, WESTCLIFF £500 PCM
ONE double bedroom first floor flat in the heart of the Shorefield Conservation Area. LOUNGE WITH FEATURE FIREPLACE. FITTED KITCHEN WITH APPLIANCES. CENTRAL HEATING VIA RADIATORS. Available now. Part or Unfurnished. No Pets. SS0 7PS



YORK ROAD, SOUTHEND £450 PCM
Ground floor rear ONE double bedroom flat close to Southend Town Centre. LOUNGE WITH OPEN PLAN FITTED KITCHEN. CENTRAL HEATING. DIRECT ACCESS TO GARDEN. Available now. Unfurnished. No Pets. SS1 2BY



RIVIERA DRIVE, SOUTHEND £695 PCM
Immaculate TWO double bedroom ground floor flat close to Southend East railway station. LOUNGE. FITTED KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM. CENTRAL HEATING. DOUBLE GLAZING. GARDEN WITH DIRECT ACCESS. Available end October. Unfurnished. No Pets. SS1 2QY



PARK ROAD, WESTCLIFF £750 PCM
TWO double bedroom self contained flat with parking. SEC ENT. LOUNGE. QUALITY FITTED KITCHEN WITH APPLIANCES. DOUBLE GLAZING. CENTRAL HEATING. SECURE PARKING. Available now. Unfurnished. No Pets. Children or Smokers, Over 25's only. SS0 7PE



CLIFFTOWN PARADE, SOUTHEND £1,000 PCM
IMMACULATE large top floor TWO double bedroom apartment. SEC ENT. LARGE LOUNGE WITH BALCONY. FITTED KITCHEN. BATHROOM WITH SHOWER. CENTRAL HEATING. DOUBLE GLAZED. PARKING. Available now. Unfurnished. No Pets. SS1 1DN



WICKFORD ROAD, WESTCLIFF £695 PCM
IMMACULATE newly decorated ground floor TWO double bedroom flat close to both mainline railway stations. LOUNGE. MODERN FITTED KITCHEN/DINER. BATHROOM WITH SHOWER. SMALL COURTYARD AREA. Available now. Unfurnished. No Pets. SS0 7NW



PALMERSTON ROAD, WESTCLIFF £600 PCM
Large ground floor TWO double bedroom flat close to the Hamlet Court Road shops. LOUNGE. FITTED KITCHEN. SHOWER ROOM/WC. CENTRAL HEATING. DOUBLE GLAZED. PARKING SPACE. Available now. Unfurnished. No Pets. SS0 7TB



WESTCLIFF PARADE, WESTCLIFF £875 PCM
Superb newly refurbished self contained TWO double bedroom Victoria apartment close to Town Centre. OWN ENT DOOR. LARGE LOUNGE. MODERN FITTED KITCHEN WITH ACCESS TO BALCONY. LUXURY BATHROOM. WC. CENTRAL HEATING. Available now. Unfurnished. No Pets. SS0 7QP



THE LEAS, WESTCLIFF £775 PCM
Panoramic Estuary views 2nd floor TWO double bedroom apartment close to Cliff Gardens. SEC ENT. LARGE LOUNGE WITH BALCONY. MODERN KITCHEN WITH APPLIANCES. CENTRAL HEATING. DOUBLE GLAZED. Available now. Unfurnished. No Pets. SS0 7ST



GUNNERS ROAD, SHOEBOURY £795 PCM
THREE bedroom family house close to East Beach and Shoebury railway station. LOUNGE/DINER. FITTED KITCHEN. CENTRAL HEATING. DOUBLE GLAZED. GARAGE AND OFF ROAD PARKING. GARDEN. Available end November. Unfurnished. No Pets. SS3 9SD

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Rayleigh

Connells

Leigh-On-Sea

£334,995



WOW WOW WOW - Connells of Rayleigh are pleased to offer for sale this delightful two bedroom detached bungalow in a sought after location. The property offers two bedrooms, garage & off-street parking for 3 cars, conservatory and large garden. VIEWING IS ADVISED TO APPRECIATE SO CALL NOW!!

Hockley

£674,995



THE QUIET LIFE. Connells of Rayleigh are pleased to offer for sale this superb three bedroom DETACHED bungalow set on a one acre plot in this rural country lane on the borders of Hockley & Hullbridge surrounded by fields and the golf course. Offering an outside swimming pool & a one bedroom annex.

Rayleigh

£134,995



Connells of Rayleigh are delighted to offer for sale this two bedroom third floor apartment situated within close proximity to the Rayleigh main line rail station and High Street. This spacious property offers lounge/diner, kitchen/breakfast room, bathroom, separate w/c and no onward chain.

Rayleigh

£177,000



Connells are sole agents on this attractive two bedroom end of terrace property located within a cul de sac on the Downhall Park Development of Rayleigh. This property has been updated and modernised by its current owner and offers a recently fitted bathroom.

Rayleigh

£200,000



Connells are pleased to offer for sale this delightful two bedroom semi-detached bungalow in a sought after location. The property benefits from having 2 bedrooms, off-street parking, full planning permission granted for 3 bedrooms and a Bathroom upstairs and also being offered with no onward chain.

Benfleet

£324,995



Connells of Rayleigh are pleased to offer a double-fronted 4 bedroom detached chalet, offering a lounge, sitting room, dining room plus further reception area and modern fitted kitchen. The property sits on a large plot which includes a 100' approx secluded rear garden. CALL NOW TO VIEW.

Rayleigh

£280,000



Connells of Rayleigh are pleased to offer for sale this stunning detached family home, which has been extended to create a 21ft x 21ft open plan living area. The property also has a 15 ft fitted kitchen, ground floor cloakroom and a ground floor bedroom. CALL TODAY TO BOOK YOUR VIEWING!!

Rochford

£349,995



FAMILY HOME - Connells of Rayleigh are pleased to offer for sale this four bedroom detached house in a lovely quite location, benefiting from having conservatory, separate dining room, large rear garden and off-street parking for two cars. VIEWING IS ADVISED TO APPRECIATE THIS LOVELY FAMILY HOME.

Rayleigh

£345,000



Connells of Rayleigh are pleased to offer for sale this two bedroom detached bungalow in a sought after location. The property benefits from having two bedrooms, conservatory and 'L' shaped lounge/diner. Externally the property offers a garage and off-street parking for approx 3 cars.

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- * Good decorative order throughout



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SOLE
AGENTS



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SOLE
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room to bedroom one & separate family bathroom. The rear garden is South facing & extensive parking is via a sweeping in/out driveway & integral single garage. Properties in this location offering such spacious accommodation are rarely available & it is one we would recommend and early appointment to view.

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- * Two Good Size Bedrooms
- * Good Size Garden



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- * Open plan Lounge/ Fully Fitted Kitchen
- * Allocated Parking
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LEIGH ON SEA P.O.A

- * Newly Built Three Bedroom Penthouse
- * Lounge, Kitchen/Diner with Juliette Balcony
- * Underfloor Heating
- * Walking Distance From Station
- * Communal Roof Terrace



NEW
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WESTCLIFF ON SEA £725 pcm

- * Two bedroom Contemporary Apartment
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- * Open plan Lounge/ Fully Fitted Kitchen
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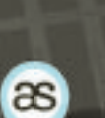


LEIGH ON SEA P.O.A

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- * Lounge, Kitchen/Diner with Juliette Balcony
- * Underfloor Heating
- * Walking Distance From Station
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ashleigh stone

HOT PROPERTY IN LEIGH, CHALKWELL & WESTCLIFF



Amazing!!



Leigh-on-Sea £425,000

Ashleigh Stone have been favoured to market this four-bedroom detached family home with off street parking, rebuilt in 2012 to a very high standard by the leading high-end developer and architectural design practice Blackcard Design Ltd. The property now offers modern living at its best, with an impressive interior and generous room proportions. Located on the popular Highlands Estate and within the sought after Westleigh School catchment area, and is within walking distance of Leigh c2c station. The accommodation includes a stunning main reception area employing intelligent interior design for the modern open-plan living with bi-folding doors overlooking the garden, separate lounge / tv room, study, utility room and cloakroom on the ground floor. On the first floor there are four bedrooms, three of which are doubles with the fourth being a good size single, and a luxurious family bathroom. The master bedroom comes with built-in wardrobes and has a super en-suite shower room with double shower.

Leigh-on-Sea

£265,000

Ashleigh Stone are pleased to offer this two bedroom detached bungalow located south of the London Road, with off street parking, west facing rear garden, modern fitted kitchen and bathroom. The bungalow is offered with no onward chain.



New

Crowstone Road

£155,000

Commuter's delight! And no onward chain! Light and spacious two double bedroom first-floor purpose-built flat conveniently situated between Westcliff and Chalkwell C2C stations, neutrally decorated and offering vacant possession.



Reduced

Westcliff-on-Sea

£129,995

Ashleigh Stone Estate Agents are delighted to offer this one bedroom ground floor flat with two reception rooms, its own garage and garden which is offered with no onward chain. Call now to view.



Reduced



Reduced

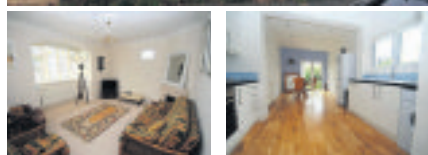


Leigh-on-Sea £305,000

Ashleigh Stone are delighted to offer this good size four bedroom semi detached family home with an impressive road frontage with a garage to the side, giving plenty of scope and potential. The property comprises three good size reception rooms and fitted kitchen on the ground floor with four bedrooms with an ensuite shower room to the master bedroom and family bathroom on the first floor. The rear garden enjoys a sunny aspect. Call now to view.



New



Leigh-on-Sea £275,000

We are delighted to offer for sale this detached bungalow, situated just north of the London Road in Leigh-on-Sea, with off street parking for multiple vehicles and a garage to the side. This lovely home has recently been refurbished and offers a good size kitchen / diner to the rear with access to

Rayleigh

£695pcm

A well presented two bedroom semi detached bungalow with modern fitted kitchen with built in oven, hob and extractor fan, lean to style conservatory and bathroom. Working tenants only.



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Leigh-on-Sea

£900pcm

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To Let

Westcliff-on-Sea

£1200 pcm

A lovely three bedroom semi detached family home with garage, good size garden and modern kitchen. The house is ideally located for Southend Hospital. Call now to view.



To Let

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CENTRAL AVENUE, DAWS HEATH, HADLEIGH £274,995

A DELIGHTFUL 4 BEDROOM FAMILY HOME set within a quiet cul-de-sac in Daws Heath, Hadleigh. The property boasts an OPEN PLANNED KITCHEN DINER, spacious lounge and large family bathroom. To the front of the property there is parking for a number of cars and a fair size garden to the rear. VIEWING ESSENTIAL!



KENTS HILL ROAD, BENFLEET £225,000

Semi detached 4 bedroom home within walking distance of Schools for all ages (KING JOHN CATCHMENT) and close proximity to TRANSPORT LINKS and local amenities. The property benefits from 4 good size bedrooms, LARGE KITCHEN, lounge diner, off street parking and an (approx) 70ft garden.



CASTLE LANE, HADLEIGH £274,950

2/3 bedroom chalet in a POPULAR AREA of Hadleigh. A UNIQUE property offering comfortable living just a stones throw from Hadleigh Castle and a short walk to the town centre. The property boasts GOOD SIZE bedrooms, off street parking and a large OFFICE/GAMES ROOM to the rear. VIEWING ADVISED!



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THE BROADWAY, THORPE BAY £850.00 PCM

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BROOMFIELD, HADLEIGH £950 PCM

A LARGE, 3 bedroom, semi-detached FAMILY HOME within the quiet Westwood Estate in Hadleigh. The property comprises of large lounge, Dining room, kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, 1 good size single, family bathroom, garden and off street parking for 2 cars. AVAILABLE NOW!



PHOENIX HOUSE, HIGH ROAD, BENFLEET £750 PCM

LARGE 2 bedroom flat situated close to shops, schools and rail links to both London and Southend. The flat offers 2 spacious double bedrooms, a luxury fitted family bathroom, large open planned kitchen/lounge area with modern fitted kitchen. Must be viewed!

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Buyers Vs. Tenants: Who's Better Off?

As the mortgage market continues to be a challenge for some, the UK rental market appears to be thriving, attracting more and more prospective tenants. But once the mortgage has been granted and the rental lease secured, which group is better off, buyers or tenants? Estate agency organisation, Home Sale Network surveyed their members to find out.

When asked who pays more per month. The tenant renting a property or the buyer paying a mortgage, nearly three quarters of Home Sale Network survey respondents indicated that it was the tenant. A further 60% stated that the gap between monthly mortgage and monthly rental payments is the biggest it has ever been, with rental rates being higher.

This would suggest that as demand in the rental market increases, so too are rental rates. Encouraging however, it also would appear that for those who can secure a mortgage-in the long term-buying is cheaper

than renting. A staggering 94% of surveyed agents stated that the average rental was up to 30% more than the average monthly mortgage payment.

Ian Law FNAEA, Director from Countryside Estates the member of Home Sale Network in Rayleigh and Benfleet said, "This is a really hot topic at the moment as we see more people entering the rental market. If you would like to discuss your buying options compared to renting, then contact us today and we will be happy to help. As Home Sale Network's selected Local Expert, we can help buyers and sellers achieve what they want from the property market."

Home Sale Network is a network of independent estate agents across England, Scotland and Wales.

For further information, please contact Ian Law, Countryside Estates, **01268 741 164**, email ian@countrysideestates.co.uk



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Drivetime

Love and eight

By Jonathan Crouch

THE PEUGEOT 208 dramatically improves its French brand's proposition in the supermini sector. It's smart to look at - and smart to own, with frugal running costs and lots of clever high-tech. It's a small car with very big ideas.

One issue tends to dominate your thinking the first time you get into this 208 and drive off.

Namely the smallest steering wheel you'll find this side of a supercar. A potential problem, you might think, given that in most vehicles, you view the instrument cluster through the wheel. Here though, you don't have to for the instrument pack has been moved to sit up above the wheel as it would do in, say, an MPV.

On the road, this car feels light on its feet thanks to a programme of weight-saving that has especially benefitted entry-level variants equipped with the marque's clever three cylinder petrol engine.

For this test though, I elect-

ed to focus on diesel power, choosing from an advanced HDi line-up virtually all of which features the brand's eco-friendly micro-hybrid e-HDi technology. At entry-level, there's a 68bhp 1.4-litre unit, but most sales will be of the 92bhp 1.6-litre variant I tried, also available with the rather jerky EGC automatic box or in slightly pokier 115bhp form.

It's taken Peugeot some time to return to the simple, smart but effective design that characterises this 208 in both three and five-door forms. None of this though, properly prepares you for what you'll find inside when you slip behind the wheel. This cabin would be impressive were it to have been created by a premium brand but from a mainstream maker especially, dare I say, a French one, it's a hugely impressive effort that'll sell many 208s before potential buyers have even left the dealer forecourt on their test drive. Soft touch plastics, tactile switchgear, chrome high-

lights and almost faultless ergonomics show other supermini sellers how it should be done.

The two main talking points inside are the smallness of the steering wheel (over which you view the high-set instruments) and the colour touchscreen attached to the fascia that controls audio, trip computer and stereo functions and to which you can add a range of clever downloadable apps.

Despite the slightly more compact outward dimensions, there's a little more room on the back seat than the old 207 offered - and extra luggage space behind.

You'll pay somewhere in the £10,000 to £18,000 bracket for most 208 derivatives, pricing that's pretty much par for the course in the supermini segment. There's a £600 premium to go from the three-door car to the five-door body style. If you're shopping at the bottom of the range, think carefully about paying the £1,300 premium to go from the entry-level 1.0-litre

petrol model to the 1.2: that's quite a lot extra to pay for an extra 14bhp. Talking of premiums, the £2,000 extra necessary to go from the entry-level 68bhp 1.0-litre petrol variant to the comparably-performing 68bhp 1.4-litre HDi diesel is unlikely to pay for itself in terms of the running cost benefits.

A lot of weight-saving has gone on in creating this 208 and the result is that on average, this car weighs about 114kgs less, model-for-model, than its 207 predecessor. Greater efficiency is therefore almost guaranteed. On top of that, plenty of eco-minded high-technology has been thrown at this Peugeot to drive its running costs down, but as usual, you won't find all of it across the range. Most of the eco-features are reserved for 1.4 and 1.6-litre e-HDi diesel models, cars that feature what Peugeot likes to call a 'micro-hybrid' system.

Along with regenerative braking, that helps this car achieve substantial fuel savings and you'll get the best of these if you specify your 208 diesel with the EGC automatic gearbox, a transmission which takes a bit of getting used to. Still, the returns it

can generate are impressive, a 208 in 1.4-litre e-HDi guise capable of 83.1mpg on the combined cycle and an 87g/km CO2 return. In manual form without the e-HDi and EGC package, the figures are 74.3mpg and 98g/km. The 1.6-litre diesel models also achieve 74.3mpg on the combined cycle and dip just before the magic 100g/km of CO2 mark that's so important from a taxation point of view. Trying to please too many people too much of the time is a sure-fire recipe for failure - or at the very least, a distinctly compromised and forgettable end-result. As Peugeot now knows, a bolder more innovative brand these days, the kind of maker you'd need to be to create a

supermini as good as this 208. "It's OK to have 20 per cent of people not liking this car", says the company's director General Vincent Rambaud, "as long as the other 80 per cent love it." I reckon he may not have too much to worry about.

There may be a few supermini buyers who don't like the cabin layout, want something better suited to cornering on its door handles or who might prefer the value proposition of a budget brand - but I'm guessing they'll be in the minority.

Most will recognise that in this 208, Peugeot has finally brought us the supermini it was always capable of. A smart small car choice - in more ways than one.



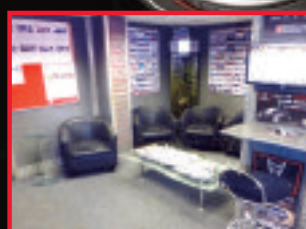
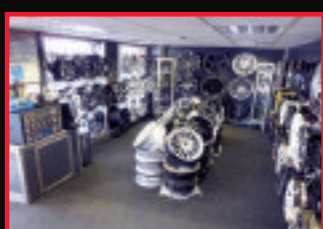
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Fuel type: Petrol
Gearbox: Manual
Body Style: Hatchback
Colour: Red

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MINI 1.6 Cooper S 3DR

Year/Reg: 2002 (02)
Engine size: 1.6L
Fuel type: Petrol
Gearbox: Manual
Body Style: Hatchback
Colour: Blue

£4,990 >>



MINI 1.6 Cooper 2DR

Year/Reg: 2004 (04)
Engine size: 1.6L
Fuel type: Petrol
Gearbox: Manual
Body Style: Convertible
Colour: Red

£6,690 >>



MINI 1.6 Cooper 2DR

Year/Reg: 2004 (54)
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Fuel type: Petrol
Gearbox: Manual
Body Style: Convertible
Colour: Black

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Gearbox: Manual
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MINI 1.6 Cooper 3DR

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Engine size: 1.6L
Fuel type: Petrol
Gearbox: Manual
Body Style: Hatchback
Colour: Silver

£7,490 >>



MINI 1.6 Cooper 2DR AUTO

Year/Reg: 2005 (05)
Engine size: 1.6L
Fuel type: Petrol
Gearbox: Automatic
Body Style: Convertible
Colour: Purple

£7,495 >>



MINI 1.6 Cooper S 5DR

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Chevrolet Spark Range: Urban 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2), Combined 55.4 (5.1) CO₂ emissions 119g/km. Chevrolet Aveo Range: Urban 34.0 (8.3) - 67.2 (4.2), Extra Urban 55.3 (5.1) - 85.6 (3.3), Combined 44.8 (6.3) - 78.4 (3.6), CO₂ emissions 147 - 95g/km.

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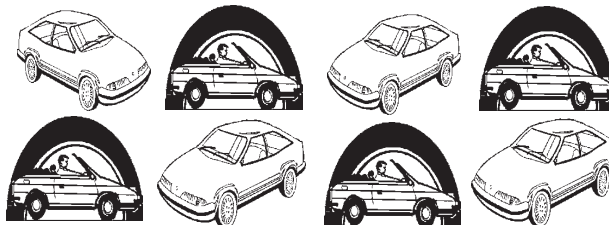
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motoring news

Think before having an
extra drink and driving

IF ASKED at what time of year motorists
would be most tempted to drink and drive,
the vast majority of us would probably say
Christmas. We would be wrong, according at
least to the government. In fact, the most
recent statistics for drink-related incidents
show that they peak in August, with almost
11 per cent more accidents recorded than in
December, resulting in more than 19 per cent
more casualties.

On warm summer days, with outdoor parties
in full swing, it's very tempting to have
more than one long, cooling drink, but drivers
must take extra care: that's the message of
the latest anti-drink driving campaign.

It emphasises that a home-poured measure
will undoubtedly be more generous than a
standard pub measure, and just one drink
could easily put someone over the legal limit
to drive. Cocktails or punches can be particularly
dangerous, as their high alcohol content
can often be masked by the taste of fruit juice.

Many people wrongly judge whether they
are safe to drive on how many units of alcohol
they have consumed. Units are a measure-
ment used by professionals as a guide to
healthy drinking limits, whereas the drink drive
limit is in fact measured in milligrams of alco-

hol found in the blood. It is impossible to cal-
culate your alcohol limit as factors such as
gender, weight, food and previous alcohol
consumption all influence the effect of the
drink. This misconception means that many
people may be unintentionally over the legal
drink drive limit because they consider having
'just one drink' to be sensible behaviour.

Any amount of alcohol in the blood can
affect a person's ability to drive and, therefore,
the safety of other road users. Indeed it has
been proven that there is double the risk of
having a road traffic accident if you are just
below the drink-driving limit, than if you had
not consumed any alcohol at all.

Unfortunately, people still think of a drink-driver
as someone who exceeds the legal limit.
In fact anyone who drinks any alcohol before
driving is 'drink-driving' and, therefore, jeopard-
ising their own safety as well as the safety of
other road users. The only sensible and
socially acceptable message is for motorists
to avoid alcohol altogether when they are like-
ly to drive.

The Government's campaign highlights the
fact that 60 deaths will occur every month as
the result of drinking and driving, with young
men in the 17 - 24 age group being most at
risk of being involved in a fatal accident, as a
passenger or driver.

Holidaymakers planning to take their car
abroad are also advised by motoring organi-
sations like Green Flag to check out the regu-
lations in the countries they plan to visit. Whilst
Italy, Ireland and Luxembourg have the same
limits as here, that's 80 milligrams of alcohol
per 100 millilitres of blood, other countries
have stricter rules. Most European countries
have a limit of 50 milligrams, whilst in Sweden
you will be in trouble if you register over 20.

To advertise in this section please telephone

YellowAdvertiser

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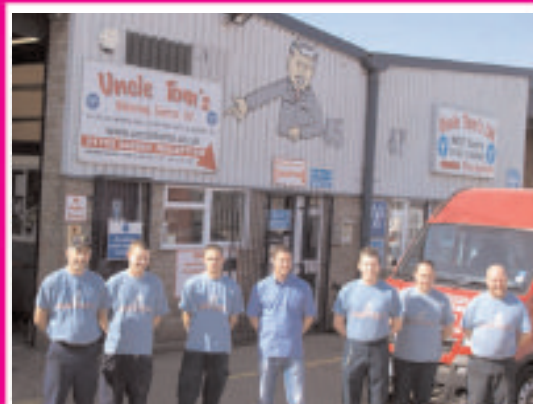
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 - Any delay in forwarding or omission to forward replies to box numbers to the Advertiser.
- The Publishers will endeavour to publish advertisements on the day / date or day / dates specified by the Advertiser but insertion days / dates cannot be guaranteed.
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- The Publishers reserve the right to reject an advertisement or to vary it in any way they deem fit, at any time before publication, whether or not the advertisement has already been accepted for publication.
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Simply dial the number below the advert!

ANNE new to the area, loves travel, cinema, theatre, seeking same happy male to share social, fun, romantic and loving times together. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 388977**

MICHELLE fit trendy 40's female, no ties, good job, OHAC, fun to be with, looking for honest trustworthy male for friendship, poss ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 389757**

MARTHA 36yr old busty black female with many interests seeking genuine loving male who enjoys home cooked food, fussing and good conversation. **Tel No: 0907 308 0272 Box No: 387065**

SUE 45yr old slim attractive blonde, loves working out, cooking, meals out, animals, looking for romance and good times with appreciative male. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 381711**

TANYA mixed race beauty 34, tall, slim, active, intelligent, romantic, feminine, discreet, WLTm older male who can appreciate a sensual female. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 377985**

DEBBIE attractive young looking divorced female, seeking male who wants but does not need a special someone in their life, single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 390077**

LYNN 37 single mum, petite slim and very pretty, seeking caring funny guy to be with and become my Mr Wonderful. Dads welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 386633**

BARBRA stylish feminine professional, many interests, social, good natured, looking for trustworthy male for good company and romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 375151**

CAROL 39yrs attractive slim brunette just looking for genuine caring man for romance, meals in and maybe more. Any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 375575**

LISA independent 34yr female, v.attractive, curvy, many interests WLTm male to give me lots of adult attention with no ties. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 397399**

HI I am Marion a blonde brown eyed homely girl who likes the company of other people, looking for male 45plus to fall in love with. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 397393**

ZOE 31yr old independent petite redhead, very pretty, good figure, confident, seeking male for tic without complications. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 388957**

TASHA single working mum seeks light hearted man, 35-45 who also likes to enjoy life to the full for passion, romance and tic. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 387047**

SUSAN gorgeous 29yr old lonely Scottish lass new to area and at loose end, seeking reliable caring male up to 40yrs for friendship/more. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 393465**

DEBBIE attractive petite brunette with big blue eyes looking for good company from romantic educated male. Status/age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 393511**

TANTALISING temptress! Now I have your attention! Diane passionate lonely lady looking for male companionship, cosy nights in and more. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 377507**

ALISHA blue eyed petite brunette, like to keep fit, cooking, holidays, seeks male 30-45 for special times. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 392399**

MICHELE very attractive black single mum, 32yrs, someone you could take home to your mother, seeking a one in a million guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 391879**

PRETTY petite dark hair/eyed 28yr old divorced single mum, great figure, lots of interests, OHAC, seeks genuine male also looking for someone special in their life. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 381721**

NATALIE professional 30's female, no ties, everything a classy blonde should be, looking for special times with male up to 65yrs. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 391871**

CHRIS attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 392401**

CARRIE 38 blue eyes, blonde, voluptuous, curvy, looking for professional gent up to 50yrs LTR. Call me to meet up for a casual drink and chat. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 380881**

LISA sexy blonde 31yrs, extremely fit and outgoing, seeking male for casual friendship with benefits. Discretion assured. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 380879**

SOPHIE lonely fun attractive female, 21, looking for fun nights out and cosy nights in with similar male, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 389731**

ALISON single caring attractive professional looking for adult companionship with understanding male. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 388119**

DEBBIE slim outgoing approachable attractive lassie, 33yrs, GSOH, sporty, looking for non serious fun male for friendship, maybe more. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 387101**

JEAN blue eyed slim blonde, certainly not looking for time wasters, WLTm likeminded male to enjoy cuddles and all the simple things life has to offer. **Tel No: 0907 308 0272 Box No: 387067**

DAWN 33yr old female looking for discreet companionship with understanding, non jealous, respectful male 35-55yrs. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 383065**

MEL tall curvy attractive blonde, loves cosy nights in with a good bottle of wine, looking for some male attention and company. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 379971**


BECKY single 29yr old slim female, attractive, blonde, seeking good times with fun male who does not take life too seriously. Status/age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 383057**

PAT well travelled outdoorsy type, easy to get on with, social, seeking guy for casual friendship maybe more. Any age/status/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 377983**

JULIE pretty blonde blue eyed single mum, 30yrs, WLTm nice male for fun meets, meals in/out and to get to know. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 377981**

ALICE 18yr old tall blonde carefree student, looking for exciting male 18-30 for good times only. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 387107**

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Sturrock eyes settled side as Blues play out goalless draw

Southend United

SOUTHEND United's stuttering form in League Two continued, playing out a dull goalless draw with York City at Roots Hall on Saturday.

In bitterly cold conditions, both sets of fans would have wondered why they bothered braving the elements as both teams failed to create many clear cut chances.

Blues boss Paul Sturrock said: "York haven't lost a game away from home this season. They are very well organised and play good football and we were sucked in to that."

"We aren't a settled team. The teams that are doing well, like Port Vale and Gillingham, there isn't a lot of change. Every week they seem to name the same team and everyone is fit."

Britt Assombalonga had the first opportunity,

but he fired straight at York keeper Michael Ingram after latching on to Kevan Hurst's through ball.

Blues keeper Paul Smith was kept warm, keeping out Ashley Chambers' scuffed shot from 12 yards.

That was as good as it was going to get in the first half, but it looked as if the second half might have been a different story as Smith saved from Matt Blair's half-volley.

The visitors had the best of the play and should have gone ahead but Jason Walker headed wide Blair's cross from the right eight yards out.

Blair was again at the heart of the action, racing clear but could not find a way past Smith who produced a double save.

The burst of action was brief as the game



CRUNCH: Alex Woodyard goes in for the challenge while some Blues fans decide they have seen enough (below).
Pictures by Dave Montier

returned to the pattern of the first half.

Sturrock introduced sub Barry Corr for Freddy Eastwood, and after the striker's introduction, the Blues came close to nicking the winner.

Chris Barker headed over Hurst's free-kick which was flicked on by Assombalonga, while Hurst fired wide with a half-volley as the game finished goalless.

Youth rugby teams mix with the elite

Brentwood Rugby

THREE teams were entered by Brentwood Rugby Club as their youngsters enjoyed the Southend Elite Festival.

Two teams were entered by their Under-7's age group while the Under-9 side also took part.

In wet and muddy conditions the Under-9's ended the group stages top of the table against Colchester and Sevenoaks.

Needing a win to progress they beat Southend after racking up six tries.

The semi-final brought them



MAKING THE ELITE: Brentwood Under-9s (left), who came runners-up in the Southend Elite Festival, and the Under-7s who entered two teams in the tournament.

steam in the final, going down 3-1.

Meanwhile the Under-7s entered A and B teams. The B team reached the final of the Plate after finishing second in their pool, while the A team reached the overall final after winning their pool and beating Blackheath in the semis.

Both Brentwood teams faced hosts Southend in their respective finals, with the B team romping to victory to secure the Plate and an overall third place.

The 'A's' ended up narrowly losing 9-8 in an electrifying final but finished second overall.

Thurrock derby ends all square as both set for FA Trophy replay

Non League Football

IT WAS all square in the derby between East Thurrock United and Thurrock in the FA Trophy Second Qualifying Round on Saturday.

Both sides from the Ryman Premier were due to do it all again at Ship Lane last night (Tuesday) after drawing 1-1.

Sam Higgins headed Rocks in the lead on the half-hour but Charlie Stimson replied for Fleet in the 68th minute.

Grays, second in Ryman North, were also looking forward to home advantage after holding Whitehawk, third in the Premier, to a 1-1 draw.

Jed Wallace put Hawks ahead midway through the second half, but sub Dan Fry equalised for Grays with a free-kick.

Canvey Island were also due to play in a replay after drawing 3-3 at Uxbridge.

Rob King and Jay Curran put Gulls 2-0 up in 20 minutes but it was level at half-time as Danny Julianne and Chris Moore (pen) pulled Uxbridge back in the game.

Moore (65) gave Uxbridge the lead but King netted his second 11 minutes from time to set up the replay.

Brentwood Town also drew 3-3 at Lewes. Alex Read put Town ahead three times, but Lewes fought back each time through Karl Beckford, Ben Godfrey and Chris Breach.

Concord Rangers crashed out, losing 2-0 at home to fellow Ryman Premier side Enfield Town. Billy Coyne was sent off on 13 minutes after handling Liam Hope's header on the line.

Hope converted the penalty while Joe O'Brien (79) made it 2-0.

In Blue Square South, Chelmsford City are third after beating a stubborn Staines Town 3-2 at Melbourne Stadium.

Anthony Cook (4), Rob Edmans (35) and Jamie Slabber (58) put Clarets in control but Staines fought back through Louie Theophanous (65, 67 pen) to set up a tense finish.

Billerica Town saw off bottom side Havant & Waterlooville 3-1 thanks to goals from Dave Collis (17) and a double from Alex Osborn (28,

55).

AFC Hornchurch slipped to a 3-1 defeat at Bath City.

Chris Allen (19) put Bath ahead but Wayne Gray (20) quickly equalised for the Urchins.

The hosts restored their lead through Joe Burnell (34) and they made sure of the victory through Sean Canham (86) late on.

Maldon & Tiptree returned to the top of Ryman North with a 3-1 victory at Needham Market.

James Robinson (3) headed Maldon ahead, but Needham hit back through Kieran Leabon (7).

However, Jamie Guy restored Maldon's lead within 30 seconds and Jonathan Glowacki (36) completed the scoring.

Aveley's good run of form ended at Waltham Forest who won 2-1. Corey Whitely scored a double while Jay Leader (79) scored for the Millers.

Heybridge Swifts moved up to fifth place with a 4-2 win over Sudbury.

A penalty from Michael Cheek and a Luke Callander strike put Swifts ahead inside the first 12 minutes. Callander was on strike before the half-hour while Russell Malton (70) made it 4-0.

Sudbury replied late on through Tom Webb and Lee Boylan's penalty.

Tilbury dropped out of the top five, losing 1-0 at home to Thamesmead Town. Enoch Adjei scored the solitary goal after 21 minutes.

Romford picked up their fourth away win, winning 3-2 at Harlow Town.

Gary Bowes and Tom Davie goals midway through the first half put Harlow ahead, but two goals from Hussain Isa (pen) and Nick Reynolds in first half stoppage time drew Boro level.

They took the three points in the last minute as Paul Clayton grabbed the winner.

Redbridge picked up their first home points with a 2-1 victory over Cheshunt.

Keeper Glenn Williamson punched into his own net to give Motormen the lead and Glenn O'Hanlon (70) made it 2-0. Danny Gudgeon scored Cheshunt's consolation.

Rugby Union Barking thrashed by league leaders

IT WAS a miserable afternoon for Barking on Saturday as they went down 3-85 at home to National Two South leaders Henley Hawks.

The team from Goresbrook did go ahead through Craig Ratford's first minute penalty, but it went downhill from there as Henley ran in 13 tries, while James Comben kicked 10 conversions.

It leaves Barking still without a point at the point after nine games.

Southend are just above the relegation zone following their 31-15 defeat at Bournemouth.

Samuel Cook and Perry Sansom ran in tries, with Bradley Burr kicking a conversion, but Bournemouth had just enough in hand, with four tries and three conversions.

In National Three London & South East, Thurrock went down by 39-26 at CS Rugby 1863.

They were made to pay for a poor first half as they went in 27-6 down at half-time. Frankie Neale kicked two early penalties but Rugby ran in four tries.

Thurrock stepped up their game in the second half, with Jake Barrand scoring a hat-trick of tries, with Ben Timson also going over the line. However, Rugby added two more to take the win.

Westcliff made the trip to Guernsey but it was an unsuccessful one as they lost 19-13.

Eton Manor lost ground in the promotion battle at the top of London One North, losing 8-22 to leaders Bury St Edmunds.

Brentwood lost out 12-13 to fourth place Colchester, while Chingford and Rochford Hundred had to settle for a 15-15 draw.

Basildon also drew, 12-12 with Diss to help their relegation battle, while Romford & Gidea Park also boosted their chances of survival, beating fellow strugglers Ruislip 11-13.

In London Two North East, Chelmsford won their derby over Braintree 20-9, while Woodford dropped to fourth from bottom after losing 31-11 at North Walsham.

South Woodham Ferrers' promotion push in London Three North East, losing 17-13 at Beccles.

Wanstead are third thanks to their 12-5 victory over Cantabrigian, while Upminster lost ground, going down 13-29 to Harlow.

Canvey Island were 28-0 victors over Sudbury while Old Brentwoods drew 12-12 with Wisbech.

Essex One: Billericay 15-10 Upper Clapton; Burnham-On-Crouch 7-53 Old Cooperians; Campton 28-0 Millwall; Clacton 18-33 Dagenham; Maldon HWO Bancroft.

Essex Two: Brightlingsea 22-20 Stanford Le Hope; Ilford Wanderers 24-0 Thames; Phantoms 0-39 Pegasus Palmerians; Writtle Wanderers 71-5 King Cross Steelers.

Southend, Leigh, Shoebury

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Wednesday, October 31, 2012

Advertisement Feature

From Shoeburyness to Sevenoaks, local window company broadens its horizons

Regional expansion as Rayleigh Glass go Really Green

Mick Brandon

Local double glazing specialist Rayleigh Glass have recently extended their operations into a wider area with installations now being carried out in London, Kent and Herts under the Really Green brand. the company was one of the first in this area to offer a genuine A Rated window system as standard and has recently completed installations of triple glazed windows in areas requiring additional sound reduction.



REALLY
GREEN
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Sales manager Paul Elliot explains "the Really Green brand has allowed us to expand our operations into new areas where the Rayleigh Glass name wouldn't necessarily be recognised.

As the name suggests it fits our model of offering energy efficient products that help our customers to make a saving on their energy bills. The easy upgrade to Triple glazing and the fact that we also recycle our waste materials to help justify our Green credentials".

The company strongly endorse the 'Rehau' window system which is a high quality window and door system engineered in Germany but manufactured in the UK. Director Matthew Evans states 'As a business model we look to retain low overheads so that we are able to offer the best quality Energy saving products at competitive prices. Rising energy costs

seem to be almost a daily topic and concern for people these days but our products help to greatly reduce these spiralling heating costs'

The company has experienced a natural growth of business which has led the company to trade outside of its original trading area of South East Essex. Sales Director Steve Dominey commented "It seems natural progression to operate out of our traditional area as more potential customers were being recommended to us in places such as London and Kent on a more regular basis. Having said that not everyone knows where Rayleigh is which explains why we have chosen to trade the Really Green name out of area. Rayleigh Glass and Really Green Company is of course the same organisation but with designated websites and branding to work best for each area.

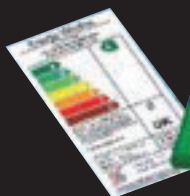
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